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Community Pride Reporter, 12/1995

Community Pride Reporter

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Community Pride Reporter

FREE

The newspaper for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of Maine and New Hampshire.

VOL. 3, Number 4

November - December, 1995

VICTORY!

The crowd erupts with joy at the news that the "NO" side has won the referendum. Over a thousand people, most of whom had volunteered for Maine Won't Discriminate, gathered at Portland's Holiday Inn By The Bay to await the outcome. The vote was 53% for the "NO" side and 47% for the "YES" side. The margin was 26,000 votes.

**"It's not too close to call anymore . . .
We won!"**

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

"It's not too close to call anymore . . . We won!" With those words Pat Peard, elicited a thunderous roar of approval from the thousand plus crowd Tuesday night, November 7, at the Holiday Inn in Portland.

Peard, Chair of Maine Won't Discriminate's Executive Committee, shared her elation with the many hundreds of volunteers and others who have worked so hard for 2 years (and more) to defeat Cosby's campaign to codify discrimination in Maine.



Balboni Photo

Election eve watch becomes huge Victory Celebration

Holiday Inn By The Bay, Portland, hosts MWD's victory party!



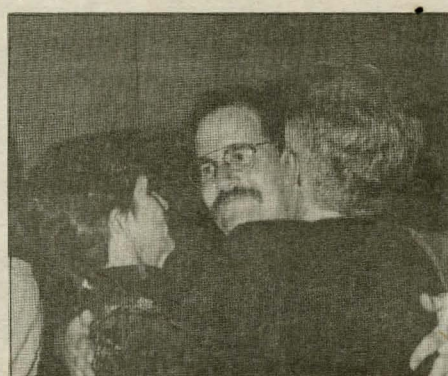
The numbers tell it all! This was the closest it got. The final result was a 53%-47% split. "NO" won by over 26,000 votes.



The gathering, including Al Diamon (beard and hat) of the Casco Bay Weekly, awaited the numbers nervously. The atmosphere was cautious optimism punctuated by moments of pandemonium as numbers favorable to the "NO" side accumulated. The tension was heightened because the results were read to the crowd town by town.



Larry Bliss & Pat Peard share the victory.



BJ Broder shares an intimate moment with Calien Lewis and Martha Mickles.



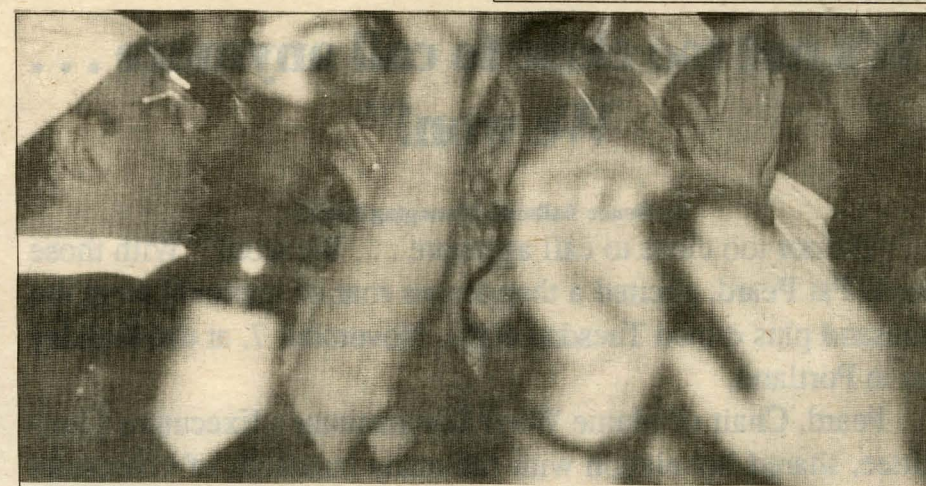
While Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" thundered through the hall, Theo rejoices.



Jessica Mauer, prominent leader in MWD, relaxes as she witnessed the fruition of her efforts.

Mary Dorazio, photo right, with fellow MWD volunteers celebrate and savor the outcome.

(All photos by Bruce Balboni)



The cheers of the crowd were thunderous! Many wept. The moment of triumph was sublime.

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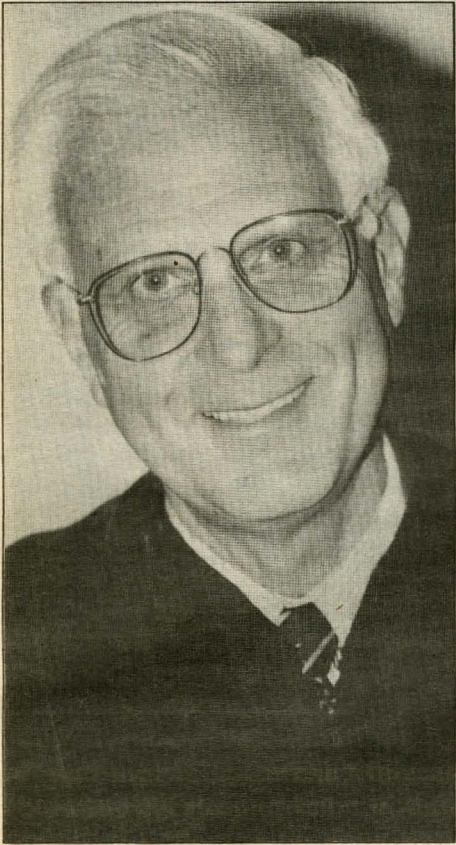
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"I have a dream that one day children will grow up being who they are . . ."

Rev. Dr. Fred Lipp

Celebration Service held at Portland's First Parish UU Church on November 8



Betsy Smith, co-chair of the Cumberland County chapter of MWD, offered her reflections on the struggle against bigotry.

Rev. Fred Lipp, photo left, Minister at the First Parish UU Church issues the following statement in the wake of the election victory.

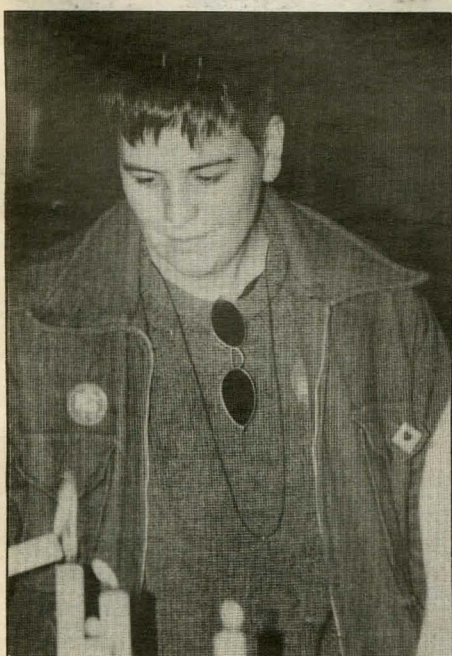
So today, I have a dream also, the way Martin Luther King had a dream: "I have a dream, that one day children will grow up being who they are, without a thought of discrimination over sexual orientation. I have a dream that parents will one day see choices regarding intimacy the way they measure the color of eyes and the color of hair. I have a dream that equal rights will be truly equal, where Gay Men, Lesbian, and Straight will work together, enjoying and drawing delight from their shared being without suspicion, without fear. I have a dream that religion will mature from ancient follies, and the true dignity intended by God for us all, whatever our persuasion, will ring clear like a church bell in February. I have a dream of the day no one will ever have to painfully "Come Out" but will just be, just be who they are . . .from the County to Cumberland County, from the Islands to the Maine pine forests."



People shared their experiences working for MWD and then walked to the front of the church to light a candle symbolizing sacrifice and victory.



Approximately 200 people attended the noontime meeting the day after the election to share their experiences working on the campaign. The sharing provided an emotional catharsis for those who spoke.



Aimsel Ponti, photo left, MWD volunteer fund-raiser lights a candle in honor of their hard-fought victory.

Maine Peace Gay On Men's Earth Chorus

Tickets available at Drop Me A Line,
Amadeus, Bookland-Mallside or any
Chorus Member

Friday, December 8, 8:00
Saturday, December 9, 8:00
State Street Church, Portland



Maine AIDS Alliance hosted a Halloween Masquerade Ball fund-raiser, Friday, October 27



Charlie Wynott & David Charity helped organize the event, held at Portland's Pavilion.



Uma Thurman & John Travolta stepped off the screen of "Pulp Fiction" to provide a touch of class to the night.



Marge Simpson wore her new mink.

(All photos by Bruce Balboni)



Mrs. Doubtfire coupled with a Park Ranger hoping to secure a fire permit. Mrs. Doubtfire won the \$300 first prize.



The Boom Boom girls line up for your pleasure.



Is that Jeff? She & Ron share a cocktail party-type moment.

Our Customers *Fuss* About the Food:

"Your food is super - always have a good meal here!!"

"Your chocolate pudding cake is very imaginative and successful."

"Never run out of strawberry shortcake!"

"Enjoyed the variety - had a hard time choosing.
I'll have to come back!"

"The best food we've had in ages. Savored everything.
We even ate the beets"

"I like the way you season your food. The herbs make the food tasty."

"Excellent! Huge portions!"

"The martinis were presented in grand fashion!"

"Soup: Can you order by the vat? Superb!"

"Roast pork dinner (Blue Plate) was unbelievable. Don't tell my Mom,
but it was even better than hers!"

"I love your crabcakes! Any chance I could get the recipe?"

"Enjoyed biscuits; novel veggie mix (beets, squash, and parsnip very good.)"

"The chocolate mountain was very, very, very, very good."

"Fish chowder super - always a good meal here!"

"Oyster appetizer very imaginative and successful!"

"The raspberry peach cobbler was wonderful!"



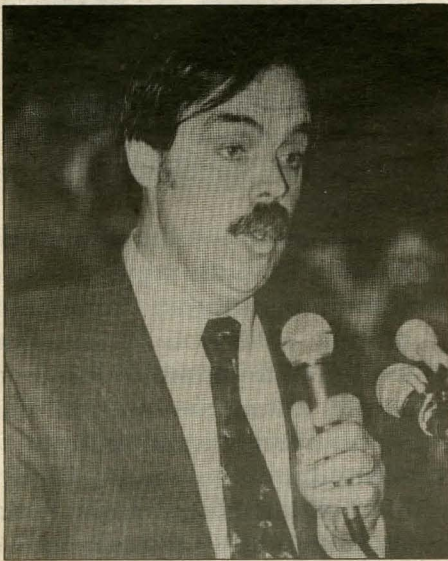
GOOD COOKIN'

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Rogue's Gallery of losers and liars

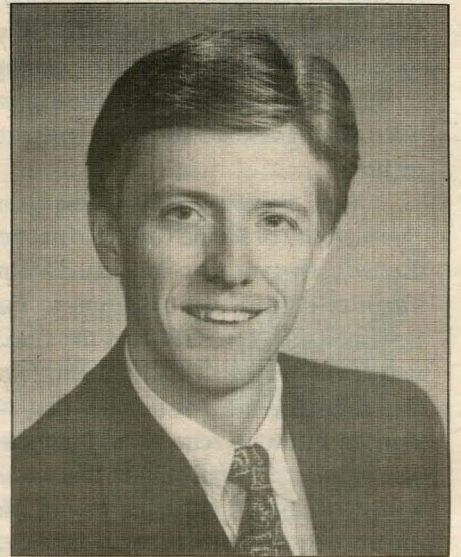
Here are the people who brought you the infamous Question #1



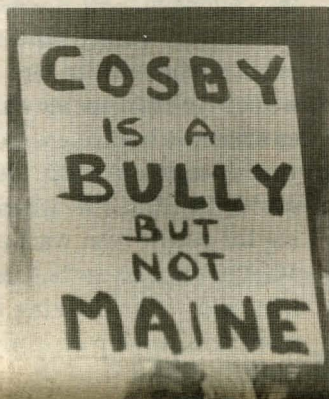
Paul Madore, leader of Coalition to End Special Rights, tried to win by stressing the immorality of gay life.



Cosby's expression of grief, May 2, at the Augusta Civic Center legislative hearing was prescient. Lockman, her trusted sidekick, left, was alleged to be the brains of Concerned Maine Families.



Mike Heath, Executive Director of the Christian Civic League, was responsible for the TV ad in which a woman claimed that if Question 1 fails, the state will have to adopt a "gay" curriculum in the grade schools.



A heartfelt and homemade sentiment, photo left, that appeared May 2 in Augusta. It proved to be right . . . on both counts

Results:

The numbers don't lie . . .

Results by county and from 10 of Maine's largest cities. The "YES" vote wins in only five of Maine's 16 counties and carries only 2 of Maine's 10 largest cities, Lewiston and Auburn.

The vote by county:

YORK:	Yes - 43.2%	No - 56.8%
CUMBERLAND:	Yes - 41.7%	No - 58.3%
SAGADAHOC:	Yes - 46.9%	No - 53.1%
ANDROSCOGGIN:	Yes - 58.2%	No - 41.8%
OXFORD:	Yes - 54.8%	No - 45.2%
LINCOLN:	Yes - 44.5%	No - 55.5%
KENNEBEC:	Yes - 47.7%	No - 52.3%
FRANKLIN:	Yes - 48.8%	No - 51.2%
KNOX:	Yes - 48.9%	No - 57%
WALDO:	Yes - 46.7%	No - 53.3%
SOMERSET:	Yes - 49.5%	No - 50.5%
HANCOCK:	Yes - 35.7%	No - 64.3%
P E N O B S C O T :	Yes - 47.4%	No - 52.6%

PISCATAQUIS:	Yes - 50.9%	No - 49.1%
WASHINGTON:	Yes - 51.4%	No - 48.6%
AROOSTOOK:	Yes - 55%	No - 45%

The vote by demographics:

Town	YES	NO
Portland	7,271	14,199
Lewiston	7,025	5,161
Bangor	3,641	6,018
Auburn	4,208	3,840
South Portland	3,528	4,602
Augusta	2,829	3,290
Sanford	2,369	2,800
Biddeford	2,717	3,832
Brunswick	1,995	3,859
Waterville	1,861	3,540

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Reflections on a campaign - - -

Movement Building in the G/L/B/T Community: Building on our Victory of November 7!

by Karen Geraghty

What an important year this has been for the gay/lesbian/bisexual and transgendered communities in Maine. We came together in big and small ways to defeat a devious and vicious attempt by the radical right to make sure that we were never granted basic civil rights protections.

Well, the vote is in and guess what? The majority of Maine voters did not buy the awful rhetoric that Concerned Maine Families (CMF), the Coalition to End Special Rights (CESR) and the Christian Civic League (CCL) put out there. The majority did not believe that we want to infiltrate schools and indoctrinate children; did not believe that we are a threat to their families or way of life; did not believe that we seek to take over the political system in this state for our own gain; did not believe all the lies they were told about who we are and how we live. This indeed is a victory to be celebrated!

When the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, the Maine Civil Liberties Union and a few of our allies came together in April 1993 to talk about how to beat this thing if it ever came to the ballot - I never dreamed that we would all have to give so much and work so hard. But when reality hit (this *thing* did get on the ballot) we were all there! We were in our chapters, our organizations, our places of worship, our homes, our businesses and everywhere else! We called ourselves Maine Won't Discriminate!

And then when reality hit for CMF, CESR and the CCL (their reality came on Election Day) - we were all there

again and we told them: Maine Won't Discriminate! This indeed is a victory to be celebrated!

So what are the next steps for the gay community and our allies in Maine? How do we take all the energy that we



Karen Geraghty, President of ML/GPA

all created to battle the devious and vicious referendum and put it towards continuing to build our movement in Maine? How do we move forward with a legislative agenda, educational agenda, and anti-violence agenda? How do we make sure that we are doing everything we can to elect candidates who support our rights? How do we make sure gay

teens everywhere in Maine have access to Outright groups? That more P-FLAG chapters get started? How do we make sure that gay people are portrayed accurately and positively in the media? That AIDS service organizations have enough volunteers and resources? These questions and many more need to be asked and answered.

There has been so much good organizing that has gone on in Maine for the last 20 years around these and other issues. But because of the threat that this referendum imposed on us many more G/L/B/T people are OUT and active! This is one of the great things that this referendum brought us (besides a sweet victory!). So I would like to set forth my agenda (yikes, that word again) in the hopes that all of us can set an agenda and make a personal commitment of time and/or money to make sure it happens.

1. Achieve basic civil rights protections in our state by 1999. (Hopefully much sooner)
2. Reduce violence against G/L/B/T by at least 50% in the next year.
3. Speak out about discrimination everywhere we possibly can. Explain that it happens and give examples of it from your own life or from people you know. Debunk the "special rights" garbage.
4. Make sure we have an Outright group and a P-FLAG chapter in every county in the state by the end of 1998. (Hopefully much sooner)
5. Have a gay community center in at least two other places besides Caribou by the end of 1999. (Thanks and congrats to our friends in Aroostook County for giving us a model to follow!)
6. Recruit and elect openly gay candidates to the Maine House and Senate.
7. Encourage more private sector employers to include anti-discrimination clauses in their personnel policies.
8. Send Dale McCormick to the U.S. Congress!
9. Support local AIDS organiza-

know that many of us are tired and would like to take a break. But we are at such a critical point in the development of our movement in Maine - we must keep on going. We must make sure that all the G/L/B/T people that "come out" after us find our state a more welcoming place to live in.

So how does this agenda (which is hopefully similar to yours) get moving forward? It takes you. Join ML/GPA and make a difference in your life and the lives of all the people who are not out yet. Get involved with the Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights, and volunteer your time and give money to AIDS organizations, Outright, Matlovich, Pride, P-FLAG and many more organizations.

I know that all the G/L/B/T groups in Maine are struggling to secure both volunteers and money so that we can continue to work towards our mission statements and goals in the aftermath of the campaign. ML/GPA is beginning with a very strong fund-raising campaign so that we can hire the staff that we need to build our movement and take us where we want to go. But we all need your energy and ideas. And speaking strictly for ML/GPA - we are really looking for people who want to be leaders. ML/GPA's goals are both short and long term and we are looking for people to assume leadership on a wide variety of issues.

Or if you don't want to be a leader, we are also searching for volunteers for so many of our projects. There is a place for you in our organization! ML/GPA's monthly membership meeting is the third Saturday of every month at the Unitarian Church in Augusta. That means that this Saturday, Nov. 18th is the day. We have changed our usual meeting time so as not to conflict with the MWD Meeting being held on the same day and in the same location.

The MWD meeting begins at 10:00 am and goes to 1:00 pm. ML/GPA is preparing lunch for everyone from 1:00 to 1:30. The ML/GPA meeting will be-

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tions by volunteering your time and giving money.

10. Increase the visibility of g/l/b/t in the media.

This is a time for us all to pull together and keep fighting the fight. I

gin at 1:30 and end at 4:30. Please join us, give us your ideas, suggestions, criticisms, etc. But most of all - please go forward in this movement with us. Together, our voices can be heard and we can make a difference. Δ

- - - 3 takes on what went down in 1995 . . .

"A view of the campaign from the Crown of Maine"

by Dick Harrison

As I write this, it's the morning of Tuesday, November 7, 1995, election day in Maine. The campaign to defeat Question One is over. It seems we've been fighting on two fronts: our public battle has been against the "Yes on One" forces; our private battle has been with the "No on One" organization.

We began organizing here in Aroostook County in the fall of 1994. Seven of us attended the Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance/National Gay & Lesbian Task Force-sponsored training in Augusta. We met regularly, setting goals, opening a bank account, renting a post office box. When the statewide efforts began under the name Maine Won't Discriminate, Aroostook was represented at the table. We asked for help in building up a network of contacts throughout The County. Remember, we

were a small handful of activists who were attempting to organize towns scattered along a line from Danforth to Madawaska; that's the same distance as from South Portland to Orono.

We knew that MWD had already received support from statewide organizations such as the Maine Council of Churches, medical groups, legal groups, and the like. They had contacts. We had none. We asked for leads; would the MWD staff find out from these supportive groups who their members were in Aroostook County, anyone with an 047xx Zip code? That seemed simple enough. From this we could begin contacting people and building up an organization. This was in February. The request was made again in March, and again and again and again. The request was repeated by telephone and again in

person at the June 11th organizational meeting in Bangor, where MWD's paid staff made their presentations about the campaign, and where they agreed to provide the information we needed. But they didn't. It took until August to finally get a response, a list of County members of the Maine Council of Churches. It was a start, but a very late one.

From what I understand of the structure of MWD, there was an advisory board and paid staff. One person from each of these bodies was assigned a county and they were to contact and work with the local chapters. Aroostook never heard from the advisory board, and a staff member didn't contact us until just before Labor Day.

Promised help, advice with organizing, and planned visits never happened. Two student volunteers were assigned to help us with voter lists during the summer. They never showed up. The staff member who had Aroostook as part of his territory called to schedule a meeting with me in Caribou; he cancelled and never rescheduled. It was as if they couldn't be bothered with this part of the state; maybe it was too far to drive, I don't know. But how many times did I receive a call to attend a meeting in Augusta, the caller unaware of or just ignoring the eight-hours driving time down and back for a two-hour meeting. When the campaign office asked for leads as to where to send the out-of-state volunteers, we told them, "send one or two to Aroostook." We offered free housing; we'd feed them; just send some people up here to help with the work you

expect us to do. It never happened.

What a refreshing change when Robert Bray from the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force insisted on including Caribou on his list of speaking engagements. We couldn't get people from Portland to come up here, but we got someone from San Francisco! The only campaign workers who finally did visit were originally from Caribou, plus one staff member who came here when Robert Bray spoke.

Then there was the media campaign. We have one local TV station serving northern Maine; it's a market unlike that in Portland or Bangor. At Robert Bray's presentation, a local volunteer who sells advertising for WAGM-TV in Presque Isle, and who is knowledgeable about the Aroostook audience, offered to help. But the campaign never took him up on it. And their decisions made that evident. The first ads featured Governor King; the next series of ads would be either a logger in the woods or a lobster fisherman on the beach. With their apparent lack of knowledge about (1) geography and (2) the County attitude about southern Maine, the campaign chose the lobster fisherman ad. This decision was made despite the information they were given after County people attended "Yes" campaign meetings sponsored by CESR at the local Baptist churches. We sent written transcripts of the presentations to campaign headquarters. In Aroostook County, CESR was framing the "No" campaigners as "southern Maine crazies" and "Portland liberals." So why put a southern Maine, i.e. lobster fishing, TV com

See Crown, page 8



Dick Harrison, co-founder of Northern Lambda Nord, taking calls on the NLN Phonenumber.

An open letter to Maine Won't Discriminate and all those working for human rights:

from Larry Dansinger

I am writing before the November 7 election and do not know how Ballot Question #1 will be decided. In some ways, it matters tremendously. In other ways, it doesn't matter at all.

I can't thank Concerned Maine Families and other groups promoting Question #1 for much, but I can thank them for bringing us together in a way that legislative campaigns did not. This is not a fault of the MLGPA or other groups working for human rights. Initiative and referendum campaigns require people to do more, both as voters and organizers. There is now a community of support for L/B/G human rights, of which I feel a part, that did not exist before. Part of the trick now is to keep that community in tact and working toward the short term goal of human rights protections and the long term goal of respect and equal treatment of lesbians, gay men and bisexuals by all of society in Maine and beyond.

Underneath the unity in MWD in

defeating Question #1, I suspect there was plenty of disagreement on how to do that. I think some people wanted a unified message, while others sought a diversity of messages. Some requested that all be on their best behavior so as not to intensify negative stereotypes, while others felt they should be themselves and that people need to learn acceptance of differences. Some wanted straights out front in this struggle, others wanted them in the background. Some proposed a consensus process, others preferred majority vote. All of these problems were difficult ones to resolve, I believe, with perhaps the "best" answer somewhere outside of the either/or choices listed above.

It's easy for me to remember these disagreements and to shudder at the thought of engaging in that kind of struggle again. But engage we all must, I feel, if we are to maintain our community and continue the struggle for human rights. We can learn from our mistakes

See HUMAN RIGHTS, page 13

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CROWN from page 7

mercial on in The County?

After some County activists met and decided that a better ad should feature a recognizable County person using the words "Aroostook County" as part of the message, the campaign's initial response was concern about the quality of the production, not with the effectiveness of the message. After numerous telephone calls from different people up here to different people down there, they finally agreed with our judgement; Mike Carpenter, former Attorney General from Houlton, was featured in the 30-second spot.

Last minute communication and lack of communication was evident throughout the campaign. When 4,500 pieces of literature were delivered to us for door-to-door distribution, the messenger asked, "Didn't anyone call you about this?" No. When exit polling was targeted at Houlton and Madawaska, the call informing us came only days before the vote and left us scrambling to try to find people who could do it. When I opened a large envelope I received in the mail November 4th, it included a "day by day time-line" which started two days earlier, November 2nd.

Then there were the signs. "Yes"

lawn signs appeared throughout The County *en masse* in mid-October. If our morale were not already low by then, it certainly was after driving around. I received repeated requests from people who were coming out of the woodwork screaming for "NO on 1" lawn signs. But the campaign, who saw few if any "Yes" signs in their area, said we wouldn't get signs until after Halloween. They'd send up wooden stakes, too. Signs finally did arrive, but no stakes. A call to inquire about the stakes yielded this response: "The wooden stakes are on a Ryder truck, working their way north. But we're only delivering as far as Bangor, so you'll have to make your own arrangements to get them the rest of the way."

After calming down and calling the Bangor office, suggesting they put some of the stakes on the bus to Caribou that evening, the returned message was, "The bus won't take the stakes unless they're bundled," which seemed to beg the question, "then why not bundle them?" After more aggravation and phone calls, the stakes were transferred from car to car to car, taking another 24 hours to make a three-hour trip.

Though the Aroostook County chapter of Maine Won't Discriminate was small, we had a number of mem-

bers who offered experience and inside information to the campaign. Whether it was media savvy or advising on working with important supporters and contributors to the campaign, we were ignored. Despite an insider's knowledge of the MEA, a large financial contributor, the campaign bashed them in the media against advice to the contrary. For much of the campaign we were ignored and then patronized. Aroostook County garnered more interest from the *Maine Times*, *Washington Blade*, and *The New York Times* than from headquarters in Portland. We found ourselves referring to MWD as "they." This "grassroots campaign" ignored the advice and judgement of the people who were at the grassroots. We saw "one size fits all" decisions made in a state with at least two if not more distinct areas. How many times did I hear, "Aroostook is only 5% of the vote" and the implied tone that we weren't numerous enough to spend much time with, though we knew that Aroostook was a stronghold of the "Yes" forces, and they would be out in numbers voting today.

I don't expect the majority of Aroostook voters to say "No on One." I certainly hope that the rest of the state can offset the "Yes" support from the north. The campaign chose to ignore the

"Yes" side's strongest message, the "special rights" argument. I hope the strategy worked, though when I see the local "Yes" TV commercial which repeatedly bashes homosexuals, Mike Carpenter's whimpy response about misleading, confusing and expensive just doesn't cut it.

When this campaign began, I was optimistic that MWD would counter the more prevalent attitude of many statewide - especially Portland-based - organizations: Bangor is northern Maine, that's as far from Portland as we'll ever go, if even that far (God forbid), and there's nothing north of there that we need to bother with when we make our plans and decisions. But actions speak louder than words, and my optimism was unfounded. This experience has only reinforced the truth of the expression "SOBs" in reference to those who are "South Of Bangor."

(Dick Harrison is an activist and Northern Lambda Nord co-founder. He serves on the board of Caribou Chamber of Commerce, and is a member of the Aroostook County Tourism Board. He is a small business owner, and editor of *Communique*, the newsletter of NLN. Harrison lives in New Sweden, Maine.) ΔΔ

CHEW ON THIS: Time for a reality check



Rose Mary Denman

By the time you get this issue of CPR in your hot little hands, Thanksgiving will

be breathing down your neck. Are you ready? Question #1 has been voted down... YES!... Now all you have to do is get through the next ten weeks and it's all downhill from there.

The holidays can be such a drain... on our pocketbooks, on our physical stamina and especially on our sense of emotional well-being. With all the hoopla, one would think that giving thanks and wishing others well were only meant for an isolated day or two a year. And what about the promises many of us make ourselves each year about not spending more than we can afford, not trying to burn the candle at both ends, pigging out to the point of oblivion and not letting the lack of the "Hallmark

Moment" in our holiday reality get us down? That's one good thing about the holidays; if we didn't get it right last year, we have the opportunity to give it our best shot again this year!

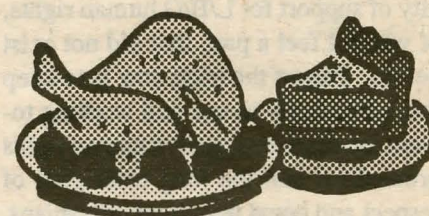
Here are a few tips that may help get us through a little less broke, able to fit into our clothes and emotionally secure: first, get rid of the "Hallmark" fantasy. I honestly have never met anyone who actually has a holiday like the television commercials and \$5 greeting cards project. It's a guilt conspiracy! Second, lose Martha Stewart! I mean, when was the last time you went to a dinner where everything was wrapped up to look like little presents... including your roast? (Did you know that dear Martha has recently been divorced? Must be all the time she took away from her loved ones while she busied herself lining her swimming pool with cut up credit cards.)

Third, if turkey isn't among your top ten foods, don't buy one! Is there an eleventh Commandment about having to eat turkey every November? My idea of a great meal is lobster, and that's what I had one year for Thanksgiving... and nobody reported me to the authorities either. It was wonderful! Fourth, if the idea of spending holidays with your family of origin sends you to the Army Surplus Store for a bullet proof vest, don't go... and, if you feel you must make an appearance, go for brunch or after dinner dessert and spend the better part of the day with your family of choice.

Fifth, if your checkbook doesn't match Donald Trump's why pretend your gifts can? Give the gift of service (the promise of a gourmet dinner for two or four in February, baby-sitting, an afternoon of chores, a massage... get the picture?) Sixth, instead of a big bash that puts your credit cards in cardiac arrest, how about renting one of those old, mushy holiday movies, making a bunch of munchies and inviting a few friends over. Isn't that a party?

Seventh, holidays aren't about religion really, they're about Spirit... the Spirit of love, the Spirit of giving, the Spirit of goodwill. If religion doesn't nurture you, don't think that leaves you out in the cold. Let Spirit provide the warmth of the season within. And finally, we could try to be creative about how we do holidays and not feel "married" to all the traditions of our past. We could invent new ones, ones that make us feel good about ourselves and the holidays.

So, Happy Thanksgiving, and be well. ΔΔ



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OUTNEWS

A gay/lesbian/bisexual news & public relations service for Maine

PORTLAND, MAINE - Maine now has its own full-time gay, lesbian and bisexual news, public relations and media watch service. "OUTNEWS" has been started by Dave Garrity and Edie Hoffman. OUTNEWS will bring our community's stories and views directly to the mainstream media: TV, radio and print.

"We have to be consistent with the media on our central theme of anti-gay discrimination from one campaign to the next," explained Dave Garrity. "And we have to have a permanent, professional, in-state clearinghouse to service print and electronic journalists, so that we can insure accuracy in any and all media coverage we receive."

OUTNEWS will direct journalists to knowledgeable gay and lesbian experts appropriate to the issue they are investigating. Media will be offered a variety of spokespeople, which has become practically essential for TV coverage these days. We need people from different backgrounds and with different perspectives to present the issues. Often a story goes unreported just because the only people and setups available have already been overused.

Another capability OUTNEWS wants to develop is a statewide media watch/response network. With gay and lesbian volunteers throughout Maine, we could not only let our community know about a TV program or an article that accurately reports an issue or presents a positive gay or lesbian image—we can thank the writer, editor and/or broad-

caster who produced it. Conversely, when something in the media misrepresents us, we can give them feedback on why we find it objectionable.

In partnership with the Community Pride Reporter, OUTNEWS hopes to hook up with national gay and lesbian wire services, both to bring us more gay and lesbian news from away and to tell the rest of the country all of the earth shattering stuff that happens everyday to the hardy lesbians and gay men of Maine. Plus OUTNEWS will offer PR advice and assistance in developing image and messages and carrying out media campaigns to nonprofit gay lesbian groups on a low cost or "expenses only" basis whenever possible.

We also need to ask the media for what we want: fair reporting and accurate presentations of gay issues; positive images of gay men and lesbians; and, finally, stories and programs *by, for and about* us. This kind of work has been pioneered nationwide by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). OUTNEWS is already investigating the establishment of a GLAAD chapter here in Maine.

Garrity and Hoffman began working together for Out Loud Against Discrimination. Out Loud was a coalition of experienced gay, lesbian and bisexual activists formed in the final months of the MWD campaign to insure that gay and lesbian issues were represented. The group researched and held a press conference on hate crimes, developed and distributed literature to gays and lesbi-



David Garrity, activist and co-founder of OUTNEWS

ans in bars across the state and worked with MPBN to get a series of documentaries on the gay and lesbian civil rights movement televised.

Both Dave Garrity and Edie Hoffman bring a unique combination of direct political action and strong media experience to OUTNEWS, as well as a deep commitment to the gay and lesbian community. And both of them have been known to stir things up a little from time to time in their own particular activist ways.

Edie Hoffman was a steering committee member early in the Equal Protection Portland campaign that successfully upheld, at the polls, the city's anti-discrimination ordinance in 1992. Ac-

tive in ACTUP, Hoffman founded Maine's own chapter of Queer Nation early in the 1990's. A writer and columnist for Apex until its recent collapse, Edie has considerable radio experience as well. Hoffman ran the college radio station while studying at Bowdoin. She moved on to become news director at WBLM and a radio personality at WGMX. And she was the producer for the Furies, Portland's original lesbian theater company.

David Garrity has been active in gay/lesbian and progressive politics since his teens: Vietnam demos in '65; a Yippie! before the bloody Chicago demonstrations of '68; marching in the first Stonewall parade (on his 21st birthday); and, member of the Media Committee for the original March on Washington in 1979. He was a writer for the New York Native (before crazy AIDS theories) and a contributor to Christopher Street magazine. Garrity became press coordinator for EPP, writing releases, developing press kits and staging press conferences—functions he again carried out for ML/GPA in '93 when our anti-discrimination bill was passed, then vetoed by McKernan. Garrity was an early founder of MWD, even helping to name it. And he has offered PR assistance to such gay groups as NYC's Greater Gotham Business Council, to AIDS service organizations and to progressive Democratic candidates here in Maine.

For more information, please write to: OUTNEWS c/o Garrity, 174 Danforth Street, Portland, ME 04102. ΔΔ

New Hampshire Notes . . .

School board to reconsider books
NEW IPSWICH: According to an Associated Press article appearing in the Portsmouth (NH) Herald, the Mascenic Regional High School board's curriculum committee will review two books that led to a teacher being fired when she used them in the classroom.

Penny Culliton was fired for distributing "Maurice" by E.M. Forster and "The Education of Harriet Hatfield" by May Sarton to her junior and senior English classes. Critics said the books portray homosexuals in a positive light. The removal of the two books plus a third, "The Drowning of Stephen Jones" by Bette Greene, drew cries of censorship.

According to the school board, the books were removed last May because they had not been approved for use. Culliton was fired for insubordination and is appealing. The case will be decided by arbitration. ΔΔ

From PFLAG-NH Newsletter

Keene Kids Question
The Concerned Students Organi-

zation at Keene High School questioned school board candidates at a two-hour forum recently. More than two hundred students asked about Mascenic and Merrimack school districts' new policies on homosexuality.

The new policies prohibit discussion of gay people or gay issues at Merrimack and censor books at Mascenic, where English teacher, Penny Culliton was fired for using books with gay characters.

First they ban discussion, then books and now hugs

In Merrimack, things have gone from bad to ridiculous. At Mastricola Middle School, the students have had a new and particularly idiotic rule thrown at them: no hugging or touching.

Seventh grade girls giving goodbye hugs to a friend moving to another school were told to stop. An eighth grader scolded for comforting a friend with a hug said, "We're just friends. We're not promoting homosexuality. Friends hug friends." (Source: The Concord Monitor, 11/3)

The only other places having rules

like this are in prisons!

Gay History Walkathon

The first ever gay history walkathon in Portsmouth, October 15, raised more than \$5000 for the Bob Kanan Fund for an Inclusive Commu-

nity. Walking together was a great mix of people from all over the seacoast, from Seacoast Outright and UNH students to ministers from several denominations and politicians. Mayor Eileen Foley read a proclamation declaring

See NEW HAMPSHIRE, page 15

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Circle of Hope MCC of Portland, ME
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Immanuel Baptist, 156 High Street
FMI: 207.773.0119

Interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Every person is welcomed! Please join us!

Community Pride Reporter

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Portland, ME
04101

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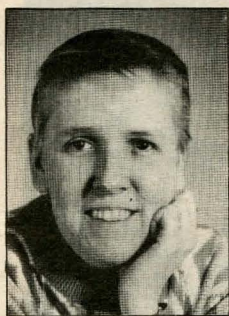
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The Community Pride Reporter is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks. This practice reflects our commitment to responsible use of our earth's resources. Using recycled paper sometimes results in the paper having a toned down or grayish tinge. However, we feel this is a small price to pay as Community Pride Reporter does its part to "Color ME Green."

EDITORIALS



Election day 1995 is history. And for now, so is CMF and CESR, although I'm sure none of us are making the mistake of thinking they won't be back within the next few weeks. We focused our news coverage heavily on the events and people around the referendum. We had more photo ops of Carolyn Cosby and company than we care to count. Last month it began to hit home, however, "What is life at CPR going to be like without the militant (did you see Ms. Cosby at city hall!?) radical right?" Good question.

As I paused to ponder this particular question of life, I have reflected on some responses we've received over the last few months concerning particular news stories we've covered. Now, let me say that I understand when you produce a newspaper you are subject to criticism and even personal attacks. It comes with the territory. And while we have had a recent spell of both criticism and

personal attacks, this isn't what concerns me most. Indeed, sometimes the lack of response worries me.

What has disturbed me recently is the expectation of some that because we are a 'gay' newspaper we will print only what we are told is okay to cover, regardless of how directly the story concerns our community, to what depth we should cover the story, and how the story should be written. The prevailing attitude seems to be that going beyond the surface press release or official statement is somehow a violation of a nebulous, unspoken code of ethics between those making the news and those reporting it. Not so.

As I said to some recent complainants, the news is the news and we are obligated to print it as accurately and fairly as possible. I challenged them, as I challenge myself and as I challenge you, the readers: don't be afraid of the truth, it works for our highest good, both individually and collectively. It's only when we attempt to keep truth hidden that we are truly giving up power. There will always be the 'anonymous source' who will answer questions from reporters or who will volunteer information.

Control, as it pertains to people's actions, is a figment of our imagination.

CPR is an independent newspaper, affiliated with no organization or group. We don't respond well to being stonewalled when we pursue a story or, to being bullied. We will not be subject to censorship by individuals or groups in our community. We will strive to improve our skills and to report stories that are factual; accurate, complete, detailed and fair.

In our Mission Statement it says, "CPR pledges to present materials that contribute in positive ways to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people." We strive to do that. We won't compromise a story because of what group or organization or individuals may be involved. Our community is strong enough to survive scrutiny. November 7 proved that. We continue to welcome your letters and comments to the Editor regarding any story or column appearing in our pages. It's your right to send them to us and our responsibility to print them.

In solidarity,

Winnie Weir

All you need is love



We won! By over a 26,000 vote margin, Mainer said "No" to discrimination - or did they? If the referendum had been a vote on a state-wide equal rights law, would the same margin of victory prevail? No one can presume to know this, but those who say the vote was not a mandate for gay rights are engaging in wishful thinking.

Over the past two years I covered Carolyn Cosby. I attended many of her several dozen press conferences and did my best to report what I learned. We were aided by an individual who went to work for Carolyn because she thought Carolyn was right. After working there, she changed her mind. Carolyn's negativity, scheming and frequently voiced prejudices woke her up to who Carolyn really was and just what it was that motivated Carolyn.

The question of motive is fascinating. Why is Carolyn Cosby doing this? Is it power? She has managed to elevate a personal prejudice into a political cause. Is she scapegoating society's most reviled group so as to gain political power and prominence or is it some kind of Biblically driven crusade? Surely, it can't be the much stated "protection of civil rights laws." That particular reason is uncharacteristically bloodless for someone like Carolyn who

is so passionate in her efforts. Did you see Carolyn on TV, on election day, screaming at Portland City Manager Bob Ganley - "You oughtta be ashamed of yourself!" (In characteristic exaggeration, Carolyn charged "the most colossal voter fraud this state has ever seen." She claimed busloads of out of staters were voting illegally - it turns out that her charges are entirely false.)

I first saw Carolyn in the flesh at a meeting she had arranged at the South Portland Church of the Nazarene, May, 1994. Carolyn had invited Reverend McIlhenny from San Francisco to fire up her troops with tales of McIlhenny's crusade against gays in California. Sitting there, shocked to hear so much hatred being voiced from the pulpit of a church, I remembered Pat Peard's warning at the Spring 1994 Maine Lesbian Gay Political Alliance (MLGPA) banquet, "Carolyn is not a wingnut." She is a clever and effective political operator.

Peard was right. Carolyn got over 60,000 signatures on petitions to force a state-wide referendum on her confusedly written question. The question, with which we are now all too familiar, asked Mainer if they wanted to limit civil rights protections to the groups already named in state law. The most prominent unnamed group is, of course, lesbians and gay men. No other group has sought civil rights protections in the legislature every year since the early seventies. I guess she means us.

Back to motive. Anyone who has

seen Carolyn at a press conference, debate or on TV can feel the ego, that sense of an obsessed and driven person who knows no other answer but her own.

For the sake of comparison, consider other politically prominent Maine women - Frannie Peabody, Margaret Chase Smith, Olympia Snowe, and consider the various motivating forces in their lives. Ranging from a vision involving the eradication of a plague to the pursuit and fulfillment of a particular political ideology, these three women have multi-faceted interests that they believe will benefit people.

Now, Carolyn - cutting through all the rhetoric, we have to believe that Carolyn's vision includes a society in which separating out homosexuals would be legally allowed. It is sad to think that this feeling of prejudice is what motivates Carolyn.

I suppose one could say, "So what." It's obvious that that's where Carolyn is coming from, but the rub is that Carolyn denies she is prejudiced. Her response to this charge is that she is not homophobic and that the claims of discrimination by gays & lesbians are false and those that are not false are justified because, you see, she wants hotel owners to be able to say to a lesbian couple who is checking into a hotel, "I'm sorry but you can't stay in this hotel because I think you are lesbians."

How does this result measure up to the kinds of things that Frannie Peabody wants to do, or that Margaret Chase Smith did, or Olympia Snowe?

See LOVE, page 11

RANT: Throw the bums out!

by David O. Cook

Once again we're in the throes of the national election farce. As usual, large amounts of time and money will be spent to crank up the flea circus that keeps the media busy while diverting voter attention from the fact that the whole ritual is more about selling TV airtime than a way for American citizens to effect substantive change in their government. Yet we're not all as dumb as party leaders would like to believe, as evidenced by steadily declining voter turnout, a likely barometer of the low esteem in which the whole enterprise is held.

Don't get me wrong: I voted for Bill Clinton and still believe that he has been better than four more years of George Bush would have been. But I just don't think that there is as much difference between the two national parties as there ought to be. And, over the last twenty years, Democrats have been complicit in an array of right-wing dirty tricks, including the so-called Reagan Revolution, which was aided and abetted by a Democratic Congress.

As the election process gets underway, there is inevitable discussion about presidential "leadership qualities," which, I suspect, is a code phrase for machismo. Since Bill Clinton never served in the military and hasn't yet bombed the shit out of the Iraqis, presumably he does not possess said leadership qualities. Yet George Bush, one of the most bellicose Presidents in recent memory, was thrown out after one term by disillusioned voters. Was it because he presided over Phase II of the

Reagan Revolution — allowing economic rot to multiply and spread? Or was it because he spent billions on a war to protect the financial interests of one filthy-rich family in Kuwait? Or was it just that he had a speaking voice that sounded like a rusty gate hinge? (The so-called "wimp factor.")

It's hard to know why so many presidents fall short of public expectations. But I believe that part of the explanation lies in the corruption of the two political parties. Beholden to big interests and their big dollars, legislators on both sides of the congressional aisle have little time for the interests of the common American. But, while the Democrats are nothing to get excited about, the Republicans are clearly worse. Now truly running amok, they are waging war on the poor and on 50 years of social progress.

Short of blowing up the whole thing and starting over, it seems to me that what America needs now is a real third national party with a commitment to social justice. It needs to be composed of unrepentant lefties who will not spend their time apologizing for their progressive views but will devote their energy to swinging the American political cultural spectrum back away from fascism and toward the ideals that are what this country is supposed to be about. Here are some planks that might fit in such a party's platform:

1. A universal human rights amendment to the U.S. Constitution that will once and for all put an end to questions about who is entitled to be treated

like human beings and who isn't (Carolyn Cosby - are you listening?)

2. A reproductive rights amendment to the U.S. Constitution that will permanently pull the teeth of the grossly misnamed "Pro-life" movement and pave the way for America to join the ranks of civilized western countries with respect to family planning, contraception, and abortion.

3. An environmental rights amendment to provide an unshakable foundation for restricting the freedom to pollute.

4. Radical campaign reform, including the elimination of private funding, restrictions on PAC influence, reduction of campaign length, and establishment of standards for campaign content.

5. Re-invigoration of federal media regulation, particularly with regard to standards for TV news quantity and content and the elimination of media "merger mania."

6. Universal National Health.

7. Universal education.

8. A unified national welfare/unemployment system.

9. Reform of the secondary education system.

10. Re-regulation of banking, finance, and commerce

Perhaps the Greens can fill this role. I'm not sure, but, whoever wants to take a shot will have to overcome nearly insurmountable obstacles in the form of an intellectually bankrupt media, a morally corrupt political process, and an apathetic population. $\Delta\Delta$

LOVE from page 10

Whether you agree with any of the ideas that motivated these three women, you cannot look at them and then look at Carolyn and not walk away feeling a little ashamed of Carolyn and the voices of prejudice she wishes to give the stamp of approval. It is pathetic that Carolyn Cosby seeks prominence in politics and that she seeks it on such a foul basis. What is even sadder is that she has managed to enlist the support of people like M.D. Harmon, columnist for the Portland Press Herald.

Harmon's piece, Monday, November 13, is a monument to misinformation, the waste product of a brain gone bad - excreta.. He ruminates on the lessons learned for the "Yes" side. In Lesson 1 he writes that the fund-raising abilities of Maine Won't Discriminate (MWD) proves that gays are not economically deprived. If I didn't know better I'd say that leap of biased judgment is simply stupid. I suppose the multi-million dollar budgets of the NAACP proves that Blacks are not economically deprived.

He repeats the falsehood that Concerned Maine Families (CMF) and the Coalition to End Special Rights (CESR) received all of their money from Main-

ers. In fact, both organization's biggest donations were from out of state, national, right wing, religious groups.

In Lesson 2 he speculates about the motives of the "No" voter. Indeed, there are people who voted "No" who do not support a state-wide bill, but he is misinformed about the bill itself. It was not taken up as an "emergency" bill but merely went through the regular legislative channels, and his crack about supporters of local control misses a fundamental difference in Cosby's attack on local control and the passage of a state-wide bill. Cosby's attack was a preemptive strike at local control, a state-wide bill is a decision made legislatively where local representatives get to voice the local interest.

In Lesson 3 we learn that resistance to gay rights is "grassroots." So is support of it and that support happens to be a majority. The implication that CMF was grass roots and MWD was elitist betrays simple ignorance of the fact that MWD had an extensive system of grass roots organizations which held pot lucks, house parties, meetings and did phone work. CMF did not mount such an effort - not because they lacked resources but because there wasn't that groundswell of volunteer support. Whose fault

is that?

As for the schizophrenia in the Catholic Church - that is just another cross for them to bear. With a largely homosexual clergy, their work is cut out for them. The American Catholic church has traditionally been more liberal than the Pope. It is very likely the next Pope will liberalize John Paul II's destructive policies.

Harmon's discussion of the nature of homosexuality in Lesson 4 is outrageous. He refers to the Paulk ad in the Portland Press Herald - paid for by the Coalition to End Special Rights. It was CESR's full-page, desperate attempt to inflame voters.

Paulk says he is a "former homosexual, male prostitute and female impersonator." The fact is that many male prostitutes are not homosexual, but, one could surmise that engaging in these behaviors and occasionally enjoying them would lead one to question one's sexual orientation. As for his career as a female impersonator - it was just that - money. Either Paulk never was a homosexual or he is simply bending to the unrelenting societal pressure that tells us that homosexuality is somehow "wrong." These two possibilities cover

See LOVE, page 20

Community Pride Reporter

142 High Street
Portland, ME
04101

Suite #623
Phone
207/879-1342

Our Mission

Community Pride Reporter serves as a source of local, state, national and international news, information, ideas and opinion by and for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people of Maine and seacoast New Hampshire. CPR strives to increase awareness and acceptance of the rich diversity among us, with the intention of infusing the word community with renewed meaning and vitality. CPR pledges to present materials that contribute in positive ways to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people.

Our Editorial Policy

Views and opinions, political and personal, expressed in Community Pride Reporter are those of the individual authors only. Community Pride Reporter may endorse candidates we feel represent our community most completely. Community Pride Reporter disclaims legal responsibility for errors in editorial, or advertising content, as all reasonable care is taken to prevent such errors. If an error has significantly detracted from the clarity of information presented, the Publisher may consider printing a clarification at her discretion.

Submissions Welcome

CPR encourages readers to write! Material submitted for publication must be legibly signed and include address and/or phone number for verification. Please keep letters to the CPR Mailbag to 300 words or less. Slightly longer and more composed submissions may be considered for a guest editorial at the Publisher's discretion. If requested, the Publisher may agree to withhold the name of an author for appropriate reasons.

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NOVEMBER - DECEMBER '95 CALENDAR

Saturday, November 18:

•**Δ 10:00 AM-1:00 PM** - Maine Won't Discriminate open meeting for anyone and everyone to talk about Question #1, the future of MWD and what happens next in Maine. UU Church, 69 Winthrop St. (corner of Summer), Augusta. FMI, 761-1788.

ΔΔ 1:30-4:30 PM - MLGPA meeting at UU Church, 69 Winthrop St. (corner of Summer), Augusta. FMI, 1-800-55-MLGPA

Sunday, November 19:

ΔΔ 6:00 PM - Re-organization meeting of DIGNITY, St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State Street, Portland. DIGNITY is coming back due to renewed interest! Mass will be celebrated followed by refreshments and fellowship. All are welcome. For more information call Laurie at 878-0546, Glenn at 878-9682, Rosemary or Janet at 646-2820.

Monday, November 20:

ΔΔ 6:00-8:00 PM - Southern Maine Pride Committee meeting. Holiday Inn By The Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Board elections, committee & advisory board formation and review of incorporation. All Welcome. FMI, 871-9940.

•**Δ 7:00-8:00 PM** - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women's Center. FMI, Jana at 772-6599.

Tuesday, November 21:

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and lesbian AA Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, November 22:

ΔΔ 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Drop-In and Open House at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

•**Δ 7:00-9:00 PM** - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Friday, November 24:

•**Δ 8:00 PM** - Big 2 Do Productions presents A Songbook Series at Portland Museum of Art. "The Maine AIDS Quilt Songbook" will benefit the Maine Chapter of The NAMES Project featuring Maine composers John Alexander, Bruce Fithian and Rita Kissen. Tickets are \$10. FMI, 207/773-0634.

•**Δ 8:00 PM** - PUCK & pan Theatre Company presents, "Dancing at Lughnasa" by Irish playwright Brian Friel, at Reiche School, Portland. Tickets are \$7.50 or pay-as-you can. Tim Grover, Artistic Director. FMI, 766-5023.

Saturday, November 25:

•**Δ 10:30-11:30 AM** - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI, 207/892-

2192.

Tuesday, November 28:

ΔΔ 1:00-2:00 PM & 7:00-9:00 PM - Alliance for Sexual Diversity meetings at Portland Campus Center in the Boiler Room (next to dining room). Open to absolutely everyone.

•**Δ 7:00-9:00 PM** - The AIDS Project 10th Anniversary Dinner with Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders speaking. Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. RSVP, TAP-774-6877-by November 22. Black Tie optional. \$50 per ticket.

Wednesday, November 29:

ΔΔ 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

•**Δ 7:00-9:00 PM** - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Thursday, November 30:

•**Δ 11:00 AM** - MCLU presents a debate on gay rights Colby College, Waterville in the Page Commons Room of the Student Union. Open to the public and free. The debate is part of the Bill of Rights program offered by the MCLU. Attorneys Michaela Murphy and Jed Davis, two local attorneys, will debate the topic with their positions not being determined until shortly before debate begins.

•**Δ 5:30-7:00 PM** - CD pre-release party and fund-raiser featuring music from "Staying out of the Risky Zone," a highly innovative music and curriculum project by Risky Zone Initiatives, with artists from Boston, New York and Portland. FMI, David Vaughan, 761-6981.

DECEMBER

Friday, December 1: WORLD AIDS DAY

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Lesbian, gay and bisexual discussion group. 1st Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland. Topic: "Role Models: Personal, Local and Beyond. FMI, Larry Godfrey, 594-2957.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Movie Night with Northern Lambda Nord at The Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main Street, Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Sunday, December 3:

•**Δ 3:00 PM** - Maine Gay Men's Chorus presents "Peace on Earth" concert at Colby College Chapel, Waterville. This is a free presentation, sponsored by Colby Student Activities and other Colby clubs. Donations will be accepted with proceeds going to Dayspring, a local ASO.

Tuesday, December 5:

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and lesbian AA Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, December 6:

ΔΔ 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Drop-In and Open House at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

•**Δ 7:00-9:00 PM** - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Thursday, December 7:

ΔΔ Time ? Chiltern Mountain Club sponsors a winter hiking clinic in eastern MA. Get ready for a safe and adventurous winter in New England! Call Charley, 617/266-0946 for details.

Friday, December 8:

•**Δ 8:00 PM** - Maine Gay Men's Chorus presents "Peace on Earth" concert at State Street Church, Portland.

Saturday, December 9:

•**Δ 4:00 PM** - Acorn Productions first ever open audition call. Call Michael Levine at 775-5103 from 2-5 PM daily to set up appointment.

ΔΔ 7:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord's Christmas Party in Caribou. Contact the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

•**Δ 8:00 PM** - Maine Gay Men's Chorus presents "Peace on Earth" concert at State Street Church, Portland.

Sunday, December 10:

ΔΔ 1:00-3:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Business Meeting at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Monday, December 11:

ΔΔ 6:30 PM - Rainbow Business & Professional Association's First Annual BIZARE BAZAAR at the Portland Club, 156 State Street, Portland. \$25 for dinner of a buffet of chicken parmigiana, lasagne bolognese, garden vegetables, antipasto, tortellini, marinated vegetables and more. FMI, Paul Bernard at 885-5060.

Tuesday, December 12:

ΔΔ 1:00-2:00 PM & 7:00-9:00 PM - Alliance for Sexual Diversity meetings at Portland Campus Center in the Boiler Room (next to dining room) Open to absolutely everyone.

•**Δ 7:00 PM** - Portland Chapter of PFLAG meets at Woodfords Congregational Church, Woodfords Corner. We are parents, friends and relatives of lesbians, bisexual, gay and transgendered persons offering support and education. FMI, Rita-766-5158 or Sue-774-3441.

•**Δ 7:00-8:30 PM** - PFLAG: Seacoast, NH sponsoring "Connections," a support group for those affected by HIV/AIDS. Held at Exeter (NH) Congregational Church, Front St. Meetings held second Tuesday each month and are primarily for support, discussion and resource sharing. FMI, Ted-603/778-0102 or

Ingrid-603/772-6221.

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and lesbian AA Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, December 13:

ΔΔ 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Drop-In and Open House at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

•**Δ 7:00-9:00 PM** - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Thursday, December 14:

•**Δ 7:30-9:00 PM** - The Matlovich Society presents, "Children of Parents Like Us," a panel discussion which will include children talking about what it's like in their families. Bring questions, thoughts and experiences. Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Accessible to the mobility impaired, free hotel parking.

Friday, December 15:

•**Δ 3:30-6:30 PM** - Open House Party at The AIDS Project. Come and visit TAP's new home at 142 High Street, 6th floor. Light refreshments.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Lesbian, gay and bisexual discussion group. 1st Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland. Topic: Combating Holiday Blues. FMI, Larry Godfrey, 594-2957.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Women's Night in Presque Isle. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Saturday, December 16

ΔΔ Day event - Chiltern Mountain Club downhill skis in New Hampshire. If the snow flies from heaven or hoses, we'll be there. Call Mike at 603/644-7658. **Δ 8:00**

PM - Portland Performing Art presents "Sweet Honey In the Rock" at the State Theatre, Portland. 19 G/A, \$29.50 cabaret. FMI, 761-591. Tickets: 879-1112. **Tuesday, December 19:**

7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and lesbian A Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088. **Wednesday, December 20:**

ΔΔ 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Drop-In and Open House at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

•**Δ 7:00-9:00 PM** - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Classified Ads

TRAVEL/VACATION

△△ **LESBIAN PARADISE!** 20 charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. We're your perfect vacation choice year round! Week-long and midweek discounts. **HIGHLANDS INN**, Box 1180P, Bethlehem, NH 03574, (603) 869-3978. △△

△△ **YELLOW BIRCH FARM:** Romantic, seasonal cottage or year round studio on working organic farm in Down east Maine, 20 minutes from Eastport. Absolute peace and quiet. Beautiful, remote, unspoiled Cobscook Bay. B & B or weekly rental. Brochure, reservations: (207) 726-5807. △△

△△ **SPECKLED MOUNTAIN RANCH:** Located in Maine's White Mountain foothills. Come stay at our beautiful B & B and horse farm. We have two rooms available, with delicious vegetarian breakfast. Ride horses, hike, enjoy nature. Call (207) 836-2908. Bethel, Maine. △△

△△ **STONE WALL B & B:** Lovell, Maine. Country farmhouse in beautiful western mountains. Peaceful, private setting; Mt. Washington views. Spacious rooms/suites; all private baths/Jacuzzi. Near Kezar Lake, golfing, hiking. Spectacular fall foliage. Gay-owned. Smoke-free. For reservations: 207/925-1080.

PERSONALS

△△ Small endowed? Short in stature? Like us? Tired of guys searching for only tall or well hung? Finally stories, advice and personals devoted to the small man and our admirers. 100's nationwide. SASE P O Box 610294, Bayside, NY 11361-0294. △△

△△ **GWM** who enjoys nude photography, hot videos, massage and safe sex looking to share these with GM 18-40. Drop me a line with phone number. Let's talk and plan to meet. Write Boxholder 337, 9 Grove Street, Auburn, ME 04210. △△

△△ **HIV+ SINGLES PUBLICATION:** Safe and confidential. Free copy, 36 word personal ad, voice mail, and mail forwarding! Local and nationwide! All life-styles. Gay, HIV+ owned and operated. Write: Intropoz+ Magazine, 564 Mission St., Box 415, San Francisco, CA 94105, or call 1-800-820-2948.

HELP WANTED

△△ **ASSISTANT INNKEEPER** - Women's inn seeks mature, responsible person to work in all aspects of inn operation. Position is full-time, year round, salary low \$20s, plus benefits. Resumes: Highlands Inn, Box 118, Bethlehem, NH 03574. △△

SUPPORT GROUP

△△ **TOWARDS A MORE POSITIVE IDENTITY:** Gay men's support group. Fred Wolf, STD, M.Div., and Chris Behan, MSW. \$45. Insurance reimbursable. Sliding scale fee possible.

Individual and couples counseling also available. Call 207/773-6658, Family Institute of Maine, 38 Deering Street, Portland. △△

SOCIAL GROUP

•△ **W.O.W., Wild Outdoor Women!** New group for women who enjoy outdoor fun including biking, hiking, camping, skiing, skating, etc. Opportunity to meet new people in relaxed, healthy atmosphere. Monthly gatherings, potlucks. Call Jen @ 207/787-2379 or 207/780-8535. △△

FOR RENT

•△ **Want a place in the country?** Peace and quiet? Spacious 2 bedroom mobile home tucked in the woods of Lyman (30 minutes from Portland). \$425 per month plus utilities. Security deposit and references required. Sorry, no dogs. Available December. Call Jackie at 207/499-7491. △△

△△ **PORTLAND:** Sunny, 2 bedroom apartment, living room, kitchen with refrigerator & stove. Heat and hot water included. \$625 month. FMI, call 772-1965. △△

△△ **PORTLAND ON BAY:** Room to rent. \$50 per week, 1st & last weeks deposit plus some utilities. Parking, laundry, 2 bedroom house, woods. Prefer non-smoking, gay male. FMI, call 871-9940. △△

HOUSESITTERS

•△ **Respectful, clean, professional** couple desperately seeking housesitting situation in Portland/South Portland area. We need private quarters for a time. We will take excellent care of house or apartment. Call for more information, 207-774-0387 and ask for Jay. △△

HOUSE FOR SALE

•△ **DELIGHTFUL SINGLE FAMILY HOME** on Spruce Street, gay friendly neighborhood on West End in Portland. 2-3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Contemporary renovated interior. Sunny, skylight, wood floors, woodstove. Pretty yard, deck and parking. \$129,000. Call owners, 207/828-7904. △△

To place a classified ad,
type or neatly print your
ad and send to CPR,
142 High St., #623,
Portland, ME 04101.

\$10/40 words,
15¢ per word over 40.

Organization wishing to have
their meetings and events
published in the CPR
calendar must submit them
typed or clearly written,
preferably one month prior
to the event. Next deadline is
December 1st.

HUMAN RIGHTS from page 7

or inadequate policies and procedures. But we shouldn't blame ourselves or each other (blaming the victim?) if we don't agree. (I don't even think we should be blaming or demonizing those who supported a "Yes" vote. As long as we focus on them as individuals instead of their specific behaviors and attitudes, we cannot hope to change them.)

I am sure I would have been very critical of the way MWD conducted the campaign had I been involved in it more actively. Instead, I chose to involve myself in ways I felt comfortable, did what I was willing to do, and made a small contribution. The more a campaign can combine different approaches and find a place for all those who want to contribute, the more effective it will be. That is something to strive for in the next chapter of this saga. My attitude about that next chapter: A clean slate. Let's overlook the problems (but

learn from them) of the past campaign and create a new strategy that is more inclusive and effective.

I will also try not to be too attached to the outcome of the election. The important thing for me is to fight the fight, whatever the result might be. Then it's much easier to keep on being involved and active, which I have been on various justice and peace issues for over 25 years, because what I value is keeping up the struggle, not winning a victory. I haven't suffered a lot from discouragement or burnout for this reason.

This ballot question has helped those of us who believe in B/L/G civil rights to create a community of support and struggle, of which I feel a part. I don't want that community to disappear after November 7. I hope others will also work to keep that community thriving, not just until a civil rights bill is passed but until homophobia disappears. That means we'll have to be in it for the long haul. △△

CPR MAIL BAG

To the Editor,

Re: CPR article on Deborah Shields resignation [as Executive Director of The AIDS Project]

Bruce:

You failed to live up to your obligations as a professional journalist in the following ways: 1) You knew the facts, yet you constructed them in such a way as to encourage readers to misconstrue what really happened, and 2) Most important, you failed to give

Deborah a chance to respond to a damaging quote from an anonymous board member, even though you knew on background the difficult situation she was in with respect to divulging pertinent facts. Taken together, these errors constitute either sloppy -- or at worse (sic) -- intentionally biased journalism. At the least, they are evidence of a lack of professionalism. You can consider this a letter to the editor.

Eve Raimon, Portland

GAY MALE COUPLES GROUP

A closed therapeutic group for gay male couples
Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Group co-facilitators are
Bill Barter, LCPC and Randy May, LMSW
Payment arrangements and insurance coverage possible.
For more information, call 773-0205.

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MAINE FRONTRUNNERS

Gay and Lesbian Running Club

Weekly run around Baxter Boulevard / Back Cove in Portland.
Every Saturday at 9:00 AM - Meet at the Preble Street parking lot.
All levels of sprinters, runners, joggers and walkers welcome.
FMI Call Jim: 761-2059 or John: 828-4896

COMMUNITY PRIDE RESOURCES

GENERAL

ML/GPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on L/G issues. Primary goals are to involve the L/G community in Maine's political process, promote civil rights, develop and review legislation, endorse candidates, build a coalition, and oppose anti-gay legislation and referenda. Meetings are the 3rd Saturday of every month in Augusta. FMI call 1-800-55-MLGPA.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Come and celebrate our children and friends just the way they are! (See listings for Maine & New Hampshire under PHONE SUPPORT and SUPPORT GROUPS.)

Northern Lambda Nord is an educational, informational, social, and service organization serving lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in northern Maine and New Brunswick. Meetings are 2nd Sunday of every month at 1 pm (ME), 2 pm (N-B), at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 S. Main St., Caribou, and can be reached every Wednesday by The Phoneline. Call 207/498-2088.

The Matlovich Society is an educational and cultural organization of lesbians, bisexuals, gay men, and friends committed to sharing our history as well as providing person-affirming presentations and discussions in a supportive environment. Meetings on the second and fourth Thursday every month at 7:30 pm at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St. Portland. Free parking and accessible to the mobility-impaired. Call 207/761-4380.

National Association of Social Workers, ME Chapter, Sexual Minority Issues Committee welcomes new social work members. Our purpose is to educate, provide resources, and lobby legislators on issues involving sexual minorities in Maine. Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5 pm at the Community Counseling Ctr., 343 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call Perry Sutherland, 874-1030.

HATE CRIMES & BIAS INCIDENTS: Have you or someone you know been a victim? Call the Civil Rights Section of the Maine Department of the Attorney General -626-8844.

Citizens Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Rights: (CAGLR), New Hampshire's oldest progressive gay/lesbian civil rights organization, welcomes all those interested in these goals to weekly meetings, programs, socials and various other events. Newsletter. Call Info-line (603) 224-1686 or write to PO Box 730, Concord, NH 03302-0730.

The Rainbow Business & Professional Association: a statewide, non-profit organization established to create a gay, lesbian, bi and transgendered "chamber of commerce" for Maine. Meetings for networking or dinner with speaker events, held in the Greater Portland area, second Monday of the month. FMI write P.O. Box 6627, Scarborough, ME 04070-6627, call 207.775.0015 or e-mail wildboys@mainelink.net.

MUSIC & ART

Women In Harmony is an eclectic choral ensemble open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 5136 Sta. A, Portland, ME. 04101,

or call 207/774-4940.

Maine Gay Men's Chorus is a community chorus which brings men together to enhance social tolerance and diversity in the Greater Portland area, as well as affirming the gay/lesbian experience with creative and lively musical entertainment. FMI call 883-8099 or write M.G.M.C., P.O. Box 10391, Portland, ME. 04104.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League will meet on the third Wednesday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists community. FMI, call 775-3420.

PHONE SUPPORT

Region by region

National Center for Lesbian Rights Youth Project: 1-800-528-NCLR.

Boston Alliance of Lesbian and Gay Youth (BAGLY): 1-800-347-TEEN.

National Hotline for gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender youth:

Call 1-800-347-TEEN, Sponsored by the Indianapolis Youth Group. 7-10 pm Sunday to Thursday, 7 pm to midnight Friday and Saturday. Staffed & trained, peer (youth) counselors. Confidential and anonymous. **New Hampshire:** Teen Crisis Line - 1-800-639-6095.

Portland:

The AIDS Line: 1-800-851-AIDS or 775-1267. HIV/AIDS related questions, call Mon.-Sat. 9 am-5 pm, Mon. & Wed. evenings until 7:30 pm. Anonymous.

DIAL KIDS: 774-TALK. For lesbian, gay, bi & questioning youth under 19 yrs.

Ingraham Volunteers: Call 774-HELP (774-4357).

The AIDS Project: 774-6877. Located at 142 High St., 6th floor, Portland 04101. Call for information and support group meetings in Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick.

Bangor: Eastern Maine AIDS Network: 990-3626

Belfast: Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: 338-1427

Brunswick: Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services: 725-4995

Bridgton: Community Task Force on AIDS: 583-6608 -

Rumford: Community AIDS Awareness Program: 823-4170

Lewiston: Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition: 786-4697

Waterville: Dayspring: 626-3432

Ellsworth: Down East AIDS Network: 667-3506

Oxford Hills: Oxford Hills Community AIDS Network: 743-7451.

Mid coast: Gay men's HELP LINE, 6:00-9:00 pm (only) M-F. 207/863-2728, FAX, 207/863-2794. Also, gay youth info.

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG)

Contacts in Maine

(* indicates monthly meetings)

Augusta/Hallowell: 623-2349

*Bangor/Brewer: 989-5180

Brunswick/Bath: 729-0519

*Oakland: Steve, 465-3870

*Lewiston/Auburn: 783-9789

*Portland: Rita, 766-5158 or Sue, 774-3441

Waldoboro: 832-5859

Contacts in New Hampshire

P-FLAG NH 24 hour Helpline:

603/623-6023

Concord: Judy, 603/485-3943

Webster: Betsy, 603/746-3818

Manchester: Hans & Lin, 603/668-0741

Nashua: Nancy, 603/880-8709

Kensington: Nora/John, 603/772-3893

Stratham: Betty, 603/772-5196

Francestown: Cy/Gordon, 603/547-2545

Hanover: Shirley/Tom, 603/643-8331

Holderness: Olivia, 603/968-7254

Center Sandwich: Tish, 603/284-6434

DOVER, NH: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Helpline for info, referral or need to talk. M-F 6-10 pm, Sat.-Sun. 9am-2pm. 603/743-GAY2.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Medical Support

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic: Confidential screening and treatment for STD's for residents and non-residents at a walk-in clinic. Low cost, medicaid accepted. Anonymous, confidential HIV testing by appointment only. Clinic open Tues. & Thurs., 3:30 to 6 pm at Portland City Hall Room 303. FMI call 874-8784.

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England: Serving men and women, offering annual exams, pregnancy testing, birth control info. & supplies (free condoms!), testing and treatment for infections and STD's, menopause support and more. Evening hours, affordable services, and complete confidentiality. Medicaid welcome. 970 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call 874-1095.

FREE FAMILY THERAPY available for individuals & families (of any type) who are affected by HIV disease. FMI, contact Chris Behan, MSW at Center for Training and Special Programs. 773-6658.

Identity Support

New Hampshire P-FLAG Meetings

Concord: Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington & North Main Streets. (use Washington St. entrance), FMI call 603/472-4944.

Seacoast: Meets 1st Tuesday from 7-9 pm at Stratham Community Church, Emory Lane, Stratham (1st right west of Rte 101 circle), FMI call 603/772-5196.

Monadnock Region: Meets 4th Monday from 7-8:30 pm at The Place to Go, 46 Concord St., Peterborough, FMI call 603/547-2545 or 603/623-6023.

Nashua: Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Church, Lowell & Canal Streets., FMI call 603/880-0910.

Plymouth: Meets first Sunday, 7-9 pm, Plymouth Congregational Church. FMI, call 603/968-7254 or 603/786-9812.

Upper Valley Region: Meets second Wednesday, 7 pm. Hanover. FMI, call 603/643-8331.

Maine P-FLAG Meetings

Portland: Meets 2nd Tuesday 7-9 PM at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St. FMI, 766-5158 or 774-3441.

Women's Center - Belfast - Weekly meetings, 9A Main St., 2nd floor (above Jaret & Cohn) FMI, 338-5702. Group meeting every Wednesday, 6:15 pm. Women's Spirituality Gatherings, Mondays 7-9 pm.

NA: Just for Today meetings every Wednesday, 8:15 pm, at St. Luke's Cathedral, State St., Portland. Use Park St. entrance in rear. Also Friday meeting, 8:00 pm, Immanuel Baptist Church, corner Deering & High St., Use entrance off Deering St.

Out and About - a lesbian support and educational group, meets on 1st & 3rd Wednesday monthly, 7:00 pm., United Methodist Church, 129 Miller Ave, Portsmouth, NH. FMI: POB 5691, Portsmouth, NH 03902, or 603/772-8045.

Out Among Friends: Meets Thursdays 7-8:30 pm, in the downstairs club room of the Portland YWCA, 87 Spring St. Lesbian sup-

port/discussion group. Free or \$1 donation to help w/rent.

Out on MDI: For gays, lesbians, bii's and our friends. Very active social/support group. Meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Newcomers always welcome. FMI, write OUT ON MDI, PO Box 367, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679-0367 or call (207) 288-2502 and leave a message.

Exeter Congregational Church: United Church of Christ in Exeter, NH welcomes all God's children to worship, Sundays, 10 a.m. 21 Front St. (near Court St.) Co-pastors the Revs. Michael L.C. Henderson & Jane Geffken Henderson. FMI, call Ingrid, 603/772-6221.

Dignity, Etc.: Meets third Sunday at 5:15 pm at St. Luke's Cathedral (Emmanuel Chapel), Portland. All are welcome. Fellowship & potluck supper follow 5:15 pm service. We minister to the lesbian and gay community. FMI, write P.O. Box 8113, Portland 04104.

The Appollo Society: an out-reach, networking and social organization for New England's gay and lesbian atheists, free-thinkers, ethical humanists and Hellenes. Free speech/civil rights advocacy group offering freedom-from-religion support, religious de-programming and fun! FMI, 773-5726 or P.O. Box 5301, Portland, ME 04101.

Community of Hope: A Christian congregation which claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all persons. Worship on Saturdays at 4:00 PM at Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI write Community of Hope. POB 1671, Portland, ME 041014.

Central Maine Gay Men's Support Group: Tuesdays from 7-8:30 pm. FMI call 622-1888 or 622-4254.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Discussion Group: 1st and 3rd Fridays each month, 7-9 pm. First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland, ME. FMI, Larry Godfrey, (207) 594-2957.

Q-Squad: Support group for lesbian, gays, bisexuals, & transgendereds. Serving Franklin County, based at UM Farmington. FMI call and leave message, (207) 778-7380.

TransSupport Group: For crossdressers, transsexuals, their families, friends, & others interested in transgenderism. Meets in secure locations to provide support, education & social activities. FMI write TransSupport, P.O. Box 17622, Portland, 04112.

Gender Talk North: P.O. Box 211, Keene, NH 03431.

Trans Counseling: Cheshire Counseling Assoc., PO Box 1124, Keene, NH 03431. 603/357-5544.

Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse: A support group for survivors of childhood abuse and/or sexual assault meets Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3 pm. Free, confidential, safe, facilitated. FMI and location call (207) 874-6593. Sponsored by USM's Womyn's Forum.

Maine Bisexual People's Network: Meets to affirm in all a positive nature of bisexuality and work toward greater acceptance in the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and straight communities. Support and referrals available. FMI write P.O. Box 10818, Portland, ME. 04104.

Polyamorous Life Support (PALS): Do you love more than one person? You may be polyamorous. Polyamorous Life Support (PALS) is a discussion/support group for people interested in creating/nourishing committed, loving, multipartner relationships.

Whether curious or already multiply intimate, call 773-6132 FMI.

Wilde-Stein Club: Meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm at Memorial Union, Sutton Lounge, UM at Orono.

Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group: Meets every Tuesday, 7-9 PM, at Women's Resource Center 101 Fernald Hall at UM Orono. FMI call (207) 581-1425.

Am Chofshi: A Maine Lesbian/Gay Jewish support group, meets monthly. FMI call Rheatha at 874-2970.

Seacoast Gay Men: Social group meets Mondays (except holidays), 7 pm Unitarian Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI call (603) 430-4052, or write P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03802-1394.

Dover, NH: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered support Group meets Sundays 7-8pm, Quaker Mtg. House, Central Ave. Social times too. FMI, 603/743-GAY2 eves.

Lewiston/Auburn: A new gay, lesbian, bisexual support group for the Lewiston/Auburn area meets Mondays at 7 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Spring St., Auburn.

Bangor Lesbian Support Group: This Lesbian Support Group welcomes any woman who self-identifies as a lesbian. They seek to create woman-only, lesbian-positive space to explore issues and affirm themselves and each another as lesbians. Confidentiality, open-mindedness and respect are required. Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, 334 Harlow St., Bangor. FMI: (207) 947-5337.

Mountain Valley Men (MVM): A group of gay men of all ages in the western Maine, Eastern NH area who get together for pot luck dinners, hiking, canoeing, skiing and other activities. FMI, write to Box 36, Center Conway, NH 03813-0036 or call Paul at 207/925-1034.

S.N.A.P.: Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests. Monthly support group for men & women healing from sexual abuse by clergy of any denomination. Meets in Portland location on third Friday of the month. FMI, call 207/774-5025.

DEGLO (Down East Gay & Lesbian Org.) meets 2nd Saturday of the month, 5:30 pm at the UU Church, Park Street, Bangor.

Men's Discussion Group: 7:00 pm, fourth Saturday every month, St. James Episcopal Church, Center & Main Streets, Old Town.

Parents

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Parents Group: Meeting in the Portland area. For dates, places and times write GLB Parents Group,

P.O. Box 10818, Portland, ME 04104.

Mothers and Kids Group: Social events and group support for lesbians and their children. Emphasis on inclusion of lesbians in the process of becoming pregnant or adopting. Meets monthly in the greater Portland area. FMI write: P.O. Box 2235, South Portland, ME 04116.

Youth Support

OUTRIGHT TOO: Sundays, 6 pm at Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, Harlow St., Bangor. Support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual youth ages 16-22. FMI, call 207/947-5393.

OUTRIGHT/Central Maine: Weekly, confidential meetings for gay, lesbian, & questioning youth 22 years and under. Call "First Call" at 795-6677 or 1-800-339-4042 and ask about OUTRIGHT.

OUTRIGHT/Portland: Meets every Friday from 7:30-9:30 pm at The People's Building, 155 Brackett St., 2nd floor, Portland. Safe and supportive discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning young people. FMI call 774-TALK, or 774-HELP or write to P.O. Box 5077, Portland, ME 04101.

OUTRIGHT/Seacoast: Meets every Friday from 7 to 9 pm at the Unitarian Church annex building adjacent to the fire station, 206 Court St., Portsmouth NH. FMI call 603/431-1013 or write P.O. Box 842, Portsmouth NH 03801.

F.A.T.E. Fight AIDS-Transform Education: A project of ACT UP/Portland whose purpose is to demand better HIV/AIDS education and combat homophobia in all Maine public schools; to form empowering groups for teens by teens and to create a context in which pro-teen, pro-gay groups are able to change the educational policies in their individual school districts. Straight or gay, boy or girl, HIV+/-, black, brown or white. All welcome. FMI on who to contact or how to organize in your school district, contact F.A.T.E., PO Box 1931, Portland, ME 04104. Phone 207/775-4844.

COLAGE: A national support group run by and for the children of gay, lesbian or bisexual parents. FMI, COLAGE, 2300 Market St., #165, Dept. P, San Francisco, CA 94114.

HIV Related Support Meetings

Portland:

Mondays: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, families, partners & caregivers, 6:30-8:00 PM.

Tuesdays: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, families, lovers, and caregivers, 10:30 am-Noon.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays: Living Well focusing on quality of life and empowerment.

1st Wednesday: PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), 5:30 pm. Call 775-PAWS. Charles Wynott, Program Coordinator.

Thursdays: People living with HIV meets from 5:30-7 pm.

2nd Thursday: Client Advisory Board, open to all clients of The AIDS Project, 1:30 pm. *The above Portland support groups meet at The AIDS Project, 142 High St., 6th floor, except the Tuesday group, Living Well. FMI on that call Sandy Titus at Stratogen Health Care. Call Jane O'Rourke at 774-6877 or 1-800-851-2437 for more information.*

Auburn: People living with HIV disease, Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 pm at Auburn Family Planning. Call Diana Carrigan, Androscoggin and Oxford Case Manager and Support Services Coordinator for TAP at the Auburn office, 783-4301.

Augusta: Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm, Dayspring AIDS Support Services offers support for people with HIV & those who care about them. FMI, call 207/626-3435.

Biddeford: People affected or infected by HIV, Mondays, 5:30-7:00 pm. So. ME. Medical Center classroom opposite cafeteria on 2nd floor. Call John Bean, York County Case Manager, 774-6877.

Brunswick: Meetings for family and friends who have loved ones with HIV/AIDS at Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services, 8 Lincoln Street. FMI on meeting days and times call 725-4955.

Farmington: Thursdays: 6:30-8:30 pm. HIV+ support group. Call Christie Foster at Tri-County Health Services, 778-4553, for location.

Gardiner: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays: People Living with HIV meets from 1:30-3 pm at the Physicians Building behind KVRHA Annex. Call MASS at 725-4955.

Rumford/Mexico Area: Mondays: AIDS Support Group/Phoneline meets from 7-8:30 pm at Mexico Congregational Church, Main Street, Mexico. Call 364-8603.

AIDS Coalition of Lewiston & Auburn: Thursdays: Support for people with HIV & their families. 7 pm, 70 Court St., 2nd floor, Auburn. FMI call 786-4697.

New Hampshire:

EXETER - "Connections," support group for care-givers: parents, families, friends-all those whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS, meets second Tuesday from 7-8:30 pm. Exeter Congregational Church, 21 Front St. Confidentiality assured. Wheelchair access. FMI, 603/772-6221 or 603/778-0102.

Maine AIDS Alliance

Member Organizations

AIDS Lodging House: P.O. Box 3820, Portland, ME 04101-3820, Call 874-1000.

AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn: P.O. Box 7977, Lewiston, Maine 04243-7977. Call 786-4697.

Community AIDS Awareness Program: c/o Mexico Cong. Church/UCC, 43 Main St., Mexico, ME 04257. Call 364-8603.

Community Task Force on AIDS Educ.: P.O. Box 941, Naples, ME 04055. Call 583-6608.

Dayspring: 32 Winthrop St., Augusta, ME 04330. Call 626-3432.

Down East AIDS Network: 114 State St., Ellsworth, ME 04605. Call 667-3506.

Eastern Maine AIDS Network: P.O. Box 2038, Bangor, ME 04401. Call 990-3626.

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Serv.: P.O. Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011-0057. Call 725-4955.

Names Project/Maine: P.O. Box 10248, Portland, ME 04104. Call 774-2198.

Oxford Hills Community AIDS Network: P.O. Box 113, Paris, ME 04271-0113. Call 743-7451.

Peabody House: 14 Orchard St., Portland, ME 04102. Call 774-6281.

People With AIDS Coalition of ME.: 696 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Call 773-8500.

Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) 142 Congress Street, Portland ME 04101. Call 775-PAWS.

St. John Valley AIDS Task Force: c/o NMMC, 143 E. Main St., Fort Kent, ME 04743. Call 834-3355.

The AIDS Project: 142 High St., 6th fl., Portland, ME 04101. Call 774-6877.

Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: P.O. Box 956, Belfast, ME 04915. Call 338-1427.

Online Resources for
Maine's LGBT Community

The Maine Gay Network

△The Maine GayNet Mail List:

Share your ideas and opinions or just plain chat with other list members. To subscribe to this list, send e-mail to majordomo@abacus.oxxy.edu. In the message part, write "subscribe me-gaynet."

△The Maine GayNet Home Page:

An ever-changing display of events and information. Meetings, contact people, resources, & referrals. The complete text of CPR available online, too. Point your WEB Browser at: <http://www.qrd.org/QRD/www/usa/maine> FMI, e-mail Paula Stockholm: paula@maine.com △△

NEW HAMPSHIRE from page 9

October 15 Gay History Day.

New Hampshire Senator Burt Cohen, Democratic Leader of the NH House, Rick Trombly and Portsmouth City Councillor, Jim Splaine joined a crowd of more than 150 people. They sang and carried banners for the three-mile walk through downtown Portsmouth.

= Civil Rights: YES!

The Coalition to End Discrimination (CED) will again support an amendment to NH's civil rights legislation to include "sexual orientation." New Hampshire citizens can lose their jobs, housing, or be refused service based solely on their sexual orientation.

Rhode Island passed a similar

amendment this summer, leaving Maine and New Hampshire the only New England states lacking such legislation.

CED will work with New Hampshire Citizens' Alliance for Gay & Lesbian Rights (CAGLR) and with PFLAG-NH members and other groups who support equal (not "special" or "gay") rights.

Somewhere, over the rainbow ...

Warren Blumenfeld, while in Kansas for a state PFLAG conference, heard the following story, which PFLAG-NH member Cy Sherman recounted to the editors of PFLAG-NH's "This Issue." It's a true story.

A boy in a Kansas high school,

knowing he was gay and nearing graduation, decided to come out to his parents and his school. The results were a disaster. His family kicked him out and his schoolmates made life at school a living hell for him, jeering at him in the halls, etc.

Isolated and miserable, he thought about his graduation ceremony and realized that there would be nobody to clap for him when he walked up to receive his diploma; it seemed more than he could bear.

On an impulse, the boy called a PFLAG number, explained the situation to a mother who answered the phone, and asked her if she might consider coming to his graduation to clap for him.

Although it would mean a two-hour drive, she said she would try to be there.

Graduation day arrived. The woman had called every PFLAG parent she knew. Twenty-six of them made the trip, knowing only the name of the graduate, and when his name was called, they all stood up together and clapped and cheered as loudly as they could.

(CPR wishes to thank Betsy Janeway and Nora Tuthill, Editors of "This Issue," PFLAG-New Hampshire's newsletter of information, news, support, and outreach for Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, for permission to reprint these articles.) △△

Arts & Entertainment

"OUT LOUD" - for the human rights of lesbians and gays



by Aimsel Ponti

This is what you should get your friends and loved ones this year for whatever holiday you may or may not celebrate. This is the one. Recently, I had a music trauma when the brilliant "Spirit of 73" compilation was released. Well, here I am having another one with the release of "OUTLOUD," a 17 song compilation album which benefits the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

Put out on the New York City's Knitting Factory label and sponsored by the folks at "Deneuve," "10 Percent" and "The Advocate," this album is a must have for anybody's music collection with an appreciation for Indigo Girls, U2, disappear fear, and Everything but the Girl, to name a few. Thirteen of the songs on this album are previously unreleased, and some can be found only

here.

If nothing else, this is certainly an eclectic album where you'll enjoy acoustic, folksy music to vibrant jazz and even a country number. Many of the artists have been making music for a long time and are well established in the music world. Others are lesser known yet have found good homes for their music on this album. Voice Farm's catchy "Shave Your Head," Betty's bluesy "Kiss My Sticky," and U2's new mix of their cover of Cole Porter's "Night and Day," may get you out on the dance floor. Background to Sunday brunch is provided by The Jazz Passengers' "Swim to Me," and The Billy Tipton Memorial Saxophone Quartet's "Tri-Monk."

A few of the artists on this collection are long-time favorites of mine. First, Melissa Ferrick starts the album off with "Taking a Liking," with the unique, fiery catch in her voice and an acoustic guitar. Indigo Girls follow with a live-acoustic "This Train Revised," a necessary addition to the collection of Amy and Emily fans.

You might not be familiar with the

British singer-songwriter Billy Bragg. His contribution, "Sexuality," a song he put out a few years ago, could be one of many theme songs to the gay-rights cause. "Just because your gay, I won't turn you away. If you stick around, I'm sure that we could find some common ground," says Bragg.

And then of course, a particular favorite of mine, disappear fear. Sonia offers another well-crafted song with "Michelangelo." She and her sister Cindy still blend their vocals in such a way as can be heard nowhere else.

Always politically conscious, Sonia reminds us that "It's no sin to love out loud."

Other artists on "Out Loud" are Throwing Muses, fronted by Kristen Hersh, The Mekons, who have been a part of England's punk scene since 1977, and Girls in the Nose, fronted by Kay Turner.

Remember Two Nice Girls. As sad as I was when I heard they split up, founder Gretchen Phillips now fronts the Gretchen Phillips Experience and her quirky, electronic song "Pease Park,"

tells the story of a notorious park in Austin, Texas where gay men apparently meet after dark. Not for the easily offended, it certainly gets its point across.

The last track on this compilation is a humorous little country ditty by the duo "Y'ALL." It's called "My Man, Our Horses and Me," and it's guaranteed to put a smile on your face.

"OutLoud" is a product of the collaboration and dedication of Julie and Michael Dorf. Michael is owner of the Knitting Factory club and record label and his sister, Julie, is the executive director of the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC). Their goal is to raise two things; funds and consciousness. The message of gay liberation is quite evident throughout the course of "OutLoud's" 17 songs. Included in the liner notes is more information and an address for the IGLHRC.

Pick up this CD for yourself or for a friend. Maybe you won't like every song, but with such a diverse mix of music, you'll be sure to find your favorites. $\Delta\Delta$

Concert Review:

Still Great... Joan Armatrading

by Aimsel Ponti

Joan Armatrading put out her first album, "Whatever's for Us," back in 1974. Now, 21 years later, she's just released a gorgeous album, "What's Inside," and played Portland's State Theater on Halloween Night. Twice she has been nominated for Grammy's, she has 18 Gold records in seven countries and she's toured extensively, and yet the "spotlight" has

never really shined too brightly on her. With classic songs like "Drop the Pilot" and "Love and Affection," as well as so many lesser known but certainly notable ones, her music stands the test of time and is breaking new ground.

"The Weakness In Me," which is perhaps one of the better written ballads of our time, and "Willow," which made it

onto the "Boys on the Side" soundtrack, are both timeless, emotional songs which "get you" every time.

Armatrading's music, which fits

the same time,

The State Theater show was the first time I had the chance to see Armatrading live. Although she doesn't talk too much to the audience, she has a way about her that lets you know her appreciation. In



many definitions, reggae, jazz, stripped down and quite orchestrated, is soulful, intimate, bluesy, dancey and if you're familiar with her, I'm sure you could think of many other ways to describe her unique styles and sounds. On "What's Inside" you'll hear the bluesy guitar work of Armatrading, you'll hear love songs, and even the London Metropolitan Orchestra. This album is very easy on the ears. It's perfect dinner music, soothing morning music, and my favorite, ideal music to lament over stuff to. Yet, this album also has a certain rhythm to it that weaves in and out over the course of 13 tracks. My favorite is the second one, "Everyday Boy." With its use of the Manu Katche drums, this particular song has an energy all its own that is subtle and powerful at

the middle of the show, she was joined by a violinist and a cellist and the three women performed a number of songs from "What's Inside." All were beautiful.

She also performed all of her classics and one of my favorites from her "Square the Circle" album, "Sometimes I Don't Want to Go Home." She ended the evening with "Willow" during which the audience joined in and carried the song for several minutes while each band member bowed and left the stage. Although I think Joan Armatrading should be a household name, her music is no less worthy of the attention that many musicians who came along years after her have gotten. Yet, I also think she is one of the women who paved the way for others to follow, and she's not done... $\Delta\Delta$

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THEATRE REVIEW

"The Yellow Wallpaper"

by Rose Mary Denman

I've always enjoyed going to the Oak Street Theatre, so when I was offered a ticket (by CPR) in exchange for a review on "The Yellow Wallpaper," I jumped at the opportunity and took a friend.

"The Yellow Wallpaper" is a novel written by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, which was adapted for this production by Suze Allen, who also directed. What a treat the evening was! I even ran into a couple of my students there, and that's always a wonderful surprise for a teacher.

Gilman's play was written as a commentary on the plight of women of her day. Jane, the main character, is a young married woman who, before her marriage, was a vivacious, curious, would-be writer. It is easy to see that, as her life as a married woman unfolds, it only serves to restrict her free-naturedness. Jane begins to have headaches, and her husband, a doctor, out of love for his wife, begins to increasingly confine her activities. He set up a regiment for her days in which she is only allowed the most passive of activities: walks in the garden, meals taken alone in her room and lots of napping. Writing is absolutely forbidden. In fact, he insists that it is the writing that is at the center of all of Jane's problems.

As the story progresses and Jane's activities are increasingly restricted, she is less and less in touch with reality. The pattern of the wallpaper in her room becomes an obsession for her, and slowly, she is driven to madness as from the pattern emerges a woman who must be freed. The projection is complete, and Jane is left, at the end of the play, a woman trapped within her own mind.

Allen's adaptation of this story is remarkable. Lisa Stathoplos as Jane is very convincing, and the wallpaper is brought to life by eight cast members who personify what Jane sees as her madness progresses. My only disappointment was in the performance of Michael Bellino, who played Jane's husband, John. In my reading of the book, I envisioned John as a well-meaning, loving husband who was the product of his day; a man who saw his wife's unrest as a symptom of too much thinking and activity, and who sought to cure her by restricting her activities because he loved her. Bellino's acting felt flat and seemed to lack what I see as the misguided, but well-intentioned behavior of the character.

Despite this small flaw, I was completely taken with the play. Thumbs up for Suze Allen and her cast! And thumbs up for the Oak Street Productions and Highwire Theatre Co. for bringing affordable, quality theatre to Portland! $\Delta\Delta$

Entertainment tidbits

Puck & Pan Theatre to perform "Dancing at Lughnasa"

Puck & Pan Theatre will perform the dramatic play, "Dancing at Lughnasa" by Irish playwright Brian Friel. This 1992 Tony Award winner explores the lives of five adult sisters and the event of the brother's return to home as told through the eyes of their seven year old nephew. "Dancing at Lughnasa" juxtaposes the relationships of paganism, tribalism and Christianity and their relationship to the harvest and the morals of dance. This play is the perfect Thanksgiving-time harvest play for the entire family. Performance dates are November 17, 19, on Thanksgiving Day weekend, November 24 and 26 and on December 1. Show time is 8:00 pm on Fridays and 7:00 pm on Sundays. Admission price is \$7.50 or pay-as-you-can. FMI, 766-5023.

Puck & Pan Theatre, one of Maine's newest dramatic theater companies, presents this contemporary look at the harvest, dance, and faith - with a cast of ten and a production crew of 15 including original choreography by Kwabena "Chan" Ansapilsquhsis, original painting designs by Maine painter, Carlo Pittore, photographs by photography-artist Robert Diamante, and costumes by fabric sculptor, Stephanie Rudloe. The production is being directed

by Tim Grover. $\Delta\Delta$

Mad Horse Theatre opens "Keely and Du"

William Henry III of "Time Magazine" says "Keely and Du" is "perhaps the most important American play of the year . . ." Written by Jane Martin, the play is directed by Andrew Sokoloff. This powerful play deals with the most divisive issue of our time, abortion.

A young pregnant woman, Keely, is kidnapped outside a Cincinnati abortion clinic by a militant group of Christian fundamentalists: Operation Retrieval. They hold her captive in a secret location, handcuff her to a bed and wait until the baby is due. They know everything about her. Every precaution has been taken: the best medical care, a trust fund, potential adoptive parents, an education fund, counseling. Attempts are made to convince her of the sanctity of human life even though the life she's carrying is the result of her brutal rape by her ex-husband. As the weeks pass, Keely and her caretaker Du, an older woman, develop a friendship of great complexity and depth. As the play builds to a shattering climax and Keely is confronted by her repentant ex-husband, now a member of the movement, and both women are faced with life or death

See TIDBITS, page 20

CONCERT REVIEW

Ferron at the Somerville (MA) Theater, October 27th

by Mark Letizia

The opportunity to see Ferron perform with a five piece band proved too irresistible to let the five hour drive to Boston deter me. It was, of course, worth the trip. The Somerville Theater is a smaller, funky version of the excellent State Theater in Portland, and it was a good venue in which to see them play.

The show started out with Ferron playing, "It Won't Take Long" on just her guitar, and one by one a band member would come on stage and start playing, along as the song got fuller and more raucous.

I was wondering if the addition of a band would dilute some of her intensity and intimacy. The last time I saw Ferron was at the Left Bank Cafe in Blue Hill, which seats only 90 people. That show, with just Ferron and Jamaica Plain (MA) guitarist Shelly Jennings, was akin to having them play in your living room. While this show was different in tone, it was no less intense.

Some of the songs that only a band could do justice to were played, such as the zydeko flavored "Love Loves Me," "Heart of Destruction," "Indian Dreams" and a version of "Sunken City" that, with its accompanying light show and heavy guitar and synthesizer, took me back 20 years to when I was going to "Yes" and "Genesis" concerts. An excellent version of "Misty Mountain" was also included.

This concert tour coincides with the release of a revamped, remixed version of Ferron's 1990 "Phantom Center," now on Earthbeat Records, a division of Warner Bros. The company hopes to expose more people to

Ferron's music. This CD also features a newly recorded version of "Stand Up" which includes Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, The Indigo Girls, helping out on vocals and guitars.

One of the high points for me was the opening song, "It Won't Take Long," which seems so on the mark today, (the day after election day). By changing two words in the lyrics (parenthetically noted), I send this out to Carolyn Cosby and her friends:

"And beware you (fundamentalists), for you will not hear one gun.
And though our (hearts) be torn and
ransacked, we will not be undone.
For as we let ourselves be bought, we're
gonna let ourselves be free.
And if you think we stand alone,
look again and you will see:
We are children in the rafters,
We are babies in the park,
We are lovers at the movies,
We are candles in the dark,
We are changes in the weather,
We are snowflakes in July,
We are women grown together,
We are men who easily cry,
We are words not quickly spoken,
We're the deeper side of try,
We are dreamers in the making,
We are not afraid of 'Why?'"

At the end of this song, Ferron added the exhortation: "I will not be complacent, I will not be complacent, I will not be complacent!!

Nor will I. $\Delta\Delta$

(Mark Letizia is owner of Osprey Healthy Homes and lives in Penobscot, Maine. We look forward to his continuing contributions.)

MUSICAL REVIEW:

The secret's out . . .

by Aimsel Ponti

It's hard to believe that Melissa Etheridge's last album, "Yes I Am," has been around for three years, and it still gets played on radio stations everywhere. I reached a personal threshold with "I'm the Only One" sometime last year, and so I am very happy to be the proud owner of her latest full length album "Your Little Secret." Her last releases were "I Take You With Me," a passionate tune from the "Boys on the Side" soundtrack, and you can find her cover of Joan Armatrading's "The Weakness in Me" on a new compilation album, "Ain't Nothin' But a She Thing."

Etheridge is a relentless traveler, seemingly always on tour, which is something I give her much credit for. I haven't heard about tour plans yet for this album, but I'm sure that she'll find herself playing somewhere near Portland.

Commercially speaking, "Yes I Am" is a tough act to follow, yet I suspect
See SECRET, page 20



State Theatre

609 Congress St.
Portland, Maine

Wednesday, November 28

Christmas Carol

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
December 1, 2, 3, & 8, 9, 10

Maine State Ballet presents

The Nutcracker

Sunday, December 17

Scarborough Dance presents

12 Christmas Gifts

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
December 20, 21, 22

Miracle on 34th Street

White Christmas

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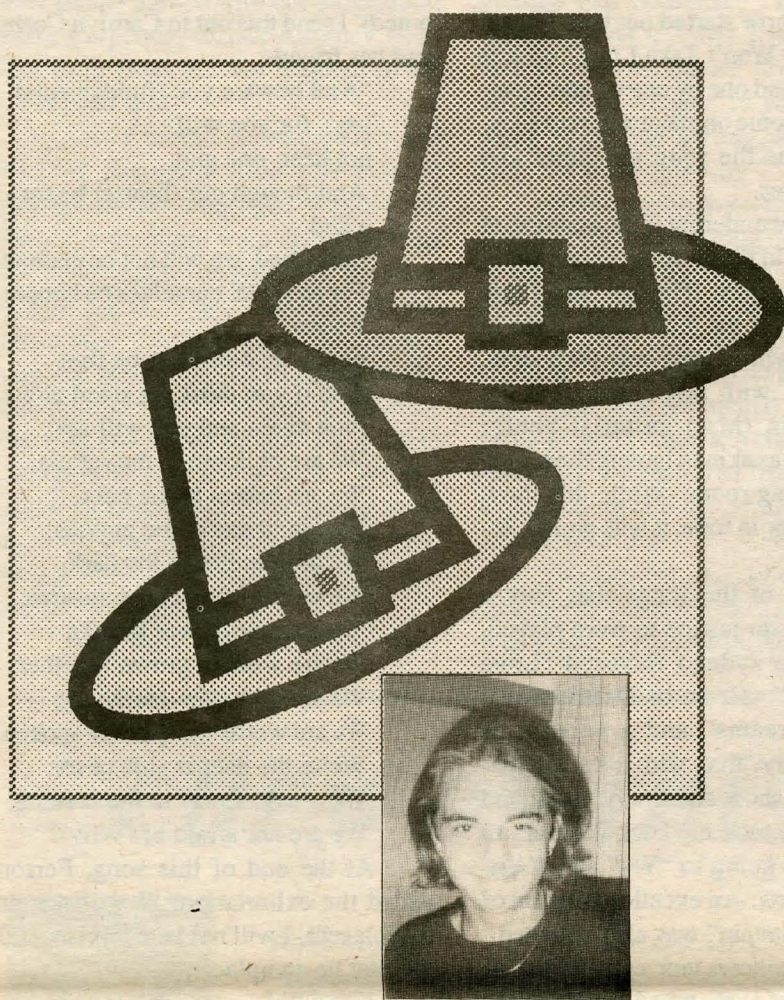
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MOVIE REVIEW - "Powder"

Reviewed by Sage Hilton-Lemons

Even though this movie has not been highly rated, "Powder" is one of the most exceptional movies in all creation. The only way it would get less than infinity stars is because whoever rated it obviously has no grip on reality or imagination.

Powder, a boy in his late teens, has been kept inside his grandparents' house all his life, because he has no skin pigmentation. Although Powder is discovered to have an I.Q. that is off the charts because it is so high, he still is discriminated upon by the boys in the state home where he is placed after his grandparents die. He is looked at differently in school, and he has a hard time trusting anyone. Powder also has a strong electric ability you might say, and is able to do lots of little tricks involving electricity. If I say anymore, I'll give away the movie. "Powder" is a movie the makes you think and brings up a lot of interesting ideas. Go see it!

RATING: Infinity *** stars ΔΔ

Well as you all probably know, Question 1 was not passed. So now, our lives may continue as normal except that Carolyn Cosby is a sore loser and now is trying to drag Maine Won't Discriminate into a legal battle. Carolyn, give it up!

Recently, I found a letter a certain administrator wrote about me last year trying to kick me out of school because, "He is causing trouble and disrupting learning in this school." So, in other words, if the ordinance that Carolyn was trying to destroy wasn't in place, the school could have easily kicked me out and sent me somewhere else. Well, I like my school this year. Things are a lot better and if any one tries to pull me out of there, they better think again. I won't go without a fight. As you read this, a group called A.Y.P.L.E. (Association for Youth Protection, Liberation, and Empowerment) is beginning it's campaign for youth. For more information on A.Y.P.L.E., write OUR VOICE, Community Pride Reporter, 142 High Street, Suite #623, Portland, Maine 04101. In a future edition of CPR we will be talking more about A.Y.P.L.E.

Until next time, SH-L

ESCAPE

by Jenn York

the howl of the wind
against the dead building
made my skin crawl
with empathy
for the armies that have marched
before me
(for the pain of my own path)
down the hard blue halls
the screams of help
suffocated
by the walls

the ones who fought
through the bricks
got pulled back in
and gave their last breath
to that prison

the walls echoed with pain
the wind spoke of release

how I wished I had a pick-ax
to break through the walls
and be carried off
by the wind

just my luck
I would fall victim
to the storm of hate
and be smashed back into
the walls

LIVERMORE FALLS by Dara Moss



OUT OF TOWN!



Paul T.
Bernard

I recently returned from the 2nd Annual Gay/Lesbian Travel Expo which was held in San Francisco. I thought that I would share with you some of the travel opportunities available to gays and lesbians.

OUR FAMILY ABROAD - This New York based company offers tours to Europe, Asia, and Africa specifically for gays/lesbians. These tours are actually offered through GLOBUS/GATEWAY - a major European tour promoter. What makes these tours different is that "Our Family Abroad" buys an entire bus tour from "Globus/Gateway" and resells it only to gays and lesbians. These tours run from 7 to 18 days.

Some of their tours are: **European Panorama** - 16 days, starts in London and ends in Paris - covers Amsterdam, Cologne, Heidelberg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Venice, Rome, Florence, Monte Carlo, Nice, Lyon and more. Price is \$2222 including air from New York. **England, Scotland, & Wales** -

10 days, starts and ends in London. Price is \$1375 including air from New York. **Midnight Sun** - 18 days, starts in Copenhagen and ends in Oslo - covers Denmark, Finland, Sweden, and Norway. Price is \$3005 including air from New York. **Egyptian Splendor** - 10 days, starts and ends in Cairo. Covers the Pyramids, Aswan area, and Luxor. Price is \$1900 including air from New York. These are just a few of the 25 tours that they offer.

OUT WEST ADVENTURES - this new company is offering outdoor travel experiences in the Rockies. These range from Ski Weeks to hiking to backpacking to white water rafting. Some of these packages are exclusively for women and some are mixed men and women.

MEN ON VACATION - This San Diego based company offers gay/lesbian tours to Australia and New Zealand. Their biggest tour is for the Gay/Lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney in February. In addition, they just recently opened up a gay resort on the island of Fiji called Man Friday Resort.

PLAYERS EXPRESS - If you are interested in Las Vegas, this company offers packages for gays/lesbians. Basically, they offer standard "straight"

packages but include a gay guide to Las Vegas.

ROYAL HAWAIIAN WEDDINGS - This Maui based company offers packages that include a commitment ceremony for gays and lesbians. Gay/Lesbian marriage still isn't legal in Hawaii, but there is a good chance that within the next couple of years it will be. The packages offered by ROYAL HAWAIIAN WEDDINGS can run from "budget" to "luxury."

MARIAH WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS - This lesbian owned company offers a variety of white water rafting trips, river expeditions (non-white water), and outdoor adventure tours to Costa Rica. While most of their trips are geared toward women, there are several tours offered for mixed groups.

These are just a few of the offerings for gay/lesbian travelers. If you want a better picture of what's offered - you should subscribe to "Out & About" magazine. This monthly magazine features objective reports on various destinations and tour operators. The magazine does not accept any advertising. The subscription rate is \$49 per year, and you can subscribe by calling "Out & About" at 212-645-6922 or e-mail at outndabout@aol.com.

If you want more information about any of the tour products listed above, call your local IGTA travel agent or call me at 885-5060. ΔΔ

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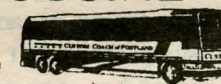


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BUSINESS PROFILE: Summit Spring water flows on

1870s pure spring water and traditional home delivery restored on hilltop farm in Harrison, Maine

by Carolyn A. Jalbert

Since reviving the 1881 Summit Spring Water tradition on their hilltop farm in Harrison, Maine, partners Kathy Harney and Pam Snow now share farm and spring water chores in addition to their full time jobs. This much sought after spring water was touted as an elixir by many physicians in the late 1800s and early 1900s when it was shipped country-wide in spruce barrels made from timber harvested from the former Summit Spring Hotel acreage. Back then, a five gallon glass carboy sold for \$1. The spring water earned a 50 year reputation as a therapeutic water bottled directly as it comes from the ground. The tradition of directly bottling the water has been preserved by Pam and Kathy, who began bottling the still viable and pure water of Summit Spring in 1992.

Having purchased the old farm in 1979, Kathy cleaned the old stone spring house and dug a deep trench piping the water up the hill to her farm. Over the last four years, the 1936 stone spring house has been renovated to conform to rigid bottled water safety standards and now contains a 20' X 20' pool of pure water that bubbles up from its original underground home,

protecting the water from contamination.

To date, Kathy and Pam have resisted drilling wells to increase the sale of Summit Spring Water simply to compete with their Poland Spring neighbor (producing 38 gallons per minute or 54,720 gallons per day!). Summit spring water maintains a constant, natural temperature of 48 degrees regardless of outside temperatures. Using only what the earth naturally produces should protect the spring from drying up. Also, drilling wells may tap into a water source that is not as pure. Nothing is added or taken out of the water as it is bottled. The water has been tested confirming that there are no impurities. The spring pool completely replenishes itself every three hours!

In addition to Harney's full time teaching career at Oxford Hills High School and Snow's career as a traveling nurse in Norway and Bridgton, the pair fill, label and crate 200 to 300 jugs per week. Neither partner gets excited by the prospect of sitting in an office dealing with the problems of a large business. They describe their business as still small, but are quick to add that,

"it is still fun." A number of specialty health stores and area factories carry a supply of the bottled water and their orders are rapidly increasing.

The Summit Spring Hotel closed in 1936 and the four story hotel with its wrap around porches was burned to the ground by vandals.

Summit Spring, Free Flowing Spring Water, Harrison, ME 04040, (Pager) 1-800-498-0077, PIN #5946 or 582-2286.

(Carolyn Jalbert is President of Jalbert Insurance Services and Vice President of the Rainbow Business & Professional Organization.)



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LOVE, from page 11

all, so-called "former homosexuals."

Furthermore, we know that we were born gay or lesbian, there is no choice involved. How many times has it been pointed out that we, homosexuals, emerge from a world that is entirely heterosexual - all the imagery of love-making and romance is heterosexual and yet we emerge.

Why would anyone think that on a given day, one of us decides to be a homosexual? Have any of the people who say homosexuality is a choice stopped to consider why someone would "join" such a persecuted group?

Harmon concludes by reminding us that this is only Round 1 of this fight. The fact that it is now being called Round 1 by Harmon and Cosby shows their contempt for the voter's decision rendered November 7 and underscores Carolyn's maniacal devotion to her hateful and hurtful "cause."

I interviewed Cosby several months ago and asked her if she would accept the will of the Maine voter if that went against her and she answered by saying she didn't think it would go against her. She refused to say she'd accept their decision. All this, despite her oft-repeated cry for letting the people speak on this issue. Well, they spoke, and Carolyn, you lost.

Ungracious in defeat, just as you were ungracious and contemptible during the campaign. Lying about anything that suited you, you gave true conservatives a black eye and no responsible political leader in the state, of any political stripe, will have anything to do with you. Your behavior on election day was a disgrace. You've become the pariah you tried so hard to make of the gay and lesbian community.

There is nothing moral or immoral about being born gay or lesbian. It's the sex that drives people crazy. Sometimes it appears that people like Cosby and Harmon fear acceptance of homosexuality because they're afraid it has appeal. Their moral posturing to the contrary notwithstanding - they fear this alternate vision of love. When all this bombast settles, that is, ultimately, what it is all about and that's all it's about - love.

Bruce Balloni

TIDBITS from page 17

choices. "What is most astonishing and compelling about this story are the complex characters involved. Both sides of this debate tend to demonize their opponents and to forget that we are talking about very real people," says director Andrew Sokoloff.

sic, proclaiming songs of freedom and songs of hope. The ensemble was founded more than two decades ago by Berneice Johnson Reagon as a women's a cappella ensemble dedicated to delivering a message of progressive social change.

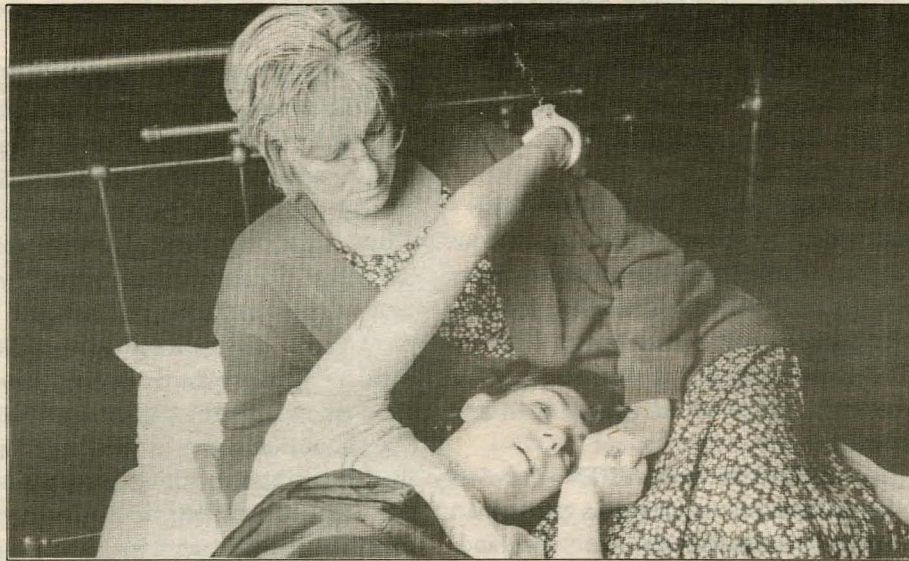
A Sweet Honey In The Rock con-

Coalition.

Danforth Gallery presents "Paper Prayers"

In recognition of "A Day Without Art," December 1, Danforth Gallery will present "Paper Prayers," a collaborative installation intended to focus on AIDS awareness and to raise money for The AIDS Project.

"Paper Prayers" was inspired by the Japanese tradition of offering painted strips of paper as prayers to sustain good health and to cure the sick. It was conceived of by Boston artist, Tom Grabosky. The installation will feature an array of paper pieces created by Maine artists and laypeople, adults and children. These pieces will work as affirmations of the group's commitment to those who are ill with AIDS and as wishes for good health to those who view the work. Viewers will be invited to take home a prayer and to make a donation to The AIDS Project. The installation will be open every day from December 1 through December 10. For more information on how you can participate in creating this installation, call Laurie Hasty, 797-5661. ΔΔ



Odelle Bowman as Du and Renee St. Jean as Keely in a scene from "Keely And Du," playing November 30 through December 17 at Mad Horse Theatre Company. Photo by Susan Mills.

Mad Horse is an intimate, 120 seat theatre located at 955 Forest Avenue, Portland. The play runs from November 30 through December 17. Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm and Sundays at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$18 (\$16 for students and seniors). For information and reservations call 797-3338.

Acorn Productions to hold open casting call

Acorn Productions (AP), fresh off the critical and box office success of its debut production of "Drinking in America," recently announced that they will be holding their first ever open audition call on Saturday, December 9 beginning at 4:00 pm. The auditions are open to any professional actor in the southern Maine area who wishes to be seen by Acorn Productions. In addition, roles in AP's upcoming productions of "Safe Sex" by Harvey Fierstein, directed by Tim Grover and "Buried Child" by Sam Shepard, directed by Michael Levine, will be cast from this casting call. Interested actors should call Michael Levine at 207/775-5103 between the hours of 2:00 and 5:00 pm to set up an appointment.

Sweet Honey In The Rock coming to Portland

Portland Performing Arts will close its 1995 Big Sounds From All Over concert series with the sublime harmonies of "Sweet Honey In The Rock" in concert on Saturday, December 16 at the State Theatre in Portland. Continuing in the Big sounds tradition of holiday concerts which "skip the hype and go straight to the heart," Sweet Honey will demonstrate the vocal and spiritual power which have placed them among the great acappella groups of the world for more than twenty years.

Sweet Honey In The Rock consists of six African-American women, some of the greatest voices in American mu-

cert is a transforming experience, drenching the audience with harmonies charged with changing rhythms, switching leads, leaping and dancing. These women sing fiercely of being fighters, tenderly of being in love, and knowingly of being women...

In addition to Reagon, Sweet Honey's brilliant vocalists include Ysaye Maria Barnwell, Aisha Kahlil, Carol Maillard and Nitanju Bolade Casel. Tickets are \$19 for general admission, \$29.50 for cabaret seating and can be purchased at the State Theatre box office.

Portland Museum of Art observes A Day Without Art

On Friday, December 1, the Portland Museum of Art will mark World AIDS Day by participating in "A Day Without Art," an international day of action and mourning in response to the continuing AIDS crisis.

In observance of "A Day Without Art," the museum will drape black cloth over the sculpture in the sculpture atrium and around the Solstice Tree. The draping of black cloth will symbolize mourning in response to the toll AIDS has taken throughout the cultural community. Staff members from The AIDS Project, AIDS Lodging House, Peabody House, PWAC (People With AIDS Coalition), PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), and The Maine AIDS Alliance will be available to answer questions and provide written material on AIDS.

In conjunction with World AIDS Day, The Maine AIDS Coalition will hold a silent auction of thirty holiday wreaths in the Museum's Sweat Memorial Galleries. These 36' artificial wreaths will be chosen from entries submitted by individuals and local florists. The silent auction will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the winners being chosen at 4 p.m. You don't have to be present to win. Proceeds from the auction will benefit The Maine AIDS

SECRET, from page 17

pect that Melissa Etheridge doesn't concern herself all too much with this.

I am a cable-less person, but I hear the first single, the title track "Your Little Secret" has a video chock full of women "displaying affection" to the sound of a great new rock 'n' roll song. The following song, "Nowhere to Go," slows things down and is destined to become an Etheridge classic, yet the more I listen to this album, the more it grows on me, and the more I think we'll all be finding many favorites, as will radio stations. "I Want to Come Over" captures the trademark Melissa gutsiness and passion as she belts out "Lover I burn, let me in," in this song.

A lot of these songs sort of seem like continuations of previous songs, which I find quite pleasing. "All The Way to Heaven" reminds me of "You Can Sleep While I Drive," I don't mean the songs sound alike, it's more like a feeling that you get; the essence of the song. Know what I mean? You will...

One quick side note, the CD I have had a sticker on it that says "Limited edition packaging." There's a keyhole on the cover through which you see Melissa's light brown eye, and inside a number of pics of her. Meaning, if you're gonna get this disc, get it soon 'cause it's very cool.

"Shriner's Park," a slow acoustic song, captures the memories of being seventeen, in love and in search of answers. It's another strong track on this album and it is followed by "Change," one that collectors of Melissa concert tapes will be familiar with. And I actually like this studio version better than the live one. The album ends with "This War is Over," a powerful, almost haunting song.

The order of songs is very effective as the album starts out with full-scale rock 'n' roll and gets stripped down and slowed down all the way to the end. Melissa Etheridge isn't back, she never left! Good album!! ΔΔ

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SYMPOSIUM XXII

by Mark Letizia

Those of you who are familiar with the Annual Gay & Lesbian Symposium will be surprised to see a few breaks with tradition this year. First, it will be held from Saturday, August 17 through Monday, August 19, 1996 instead of its usual Memorial Day weekend time slot.

Secondly, it will be held in Bar Harbor at The College of the Atlantic, which is a very beautiful campus built on a former ocean front estate. It is within walking distance to downtown Bar Harbor.

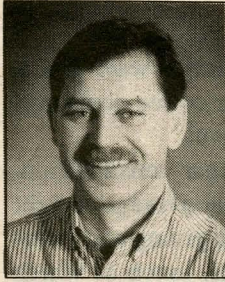
Thirdly, while there will be plenty of workshops, the Gay & Lesbian Town Meeting, a dance performance and a Saturday night disco, we will also have less organized outdoor activities such as kayaking, a queer sail, hiking, biking the carriage roads, even a moonlit hike to "Great Head" (not a joke, sound enticing?)

The Symposium is an annual event, with the exception of 1995 when the community was involved

with the referendum fight), that brings us together for education and relaxation (read FUN!) in various places in Maine. It has been held in Portland, Presque Isle and Unity. The host group puts in an enormous amount of work making plans, securing speakers, writing grants, arranging housing, publicizing the event and much more, so the gay, lesbian, bi and trans communities can be together in a relatively safe environment.

A group of folks from "Out on M.D.I.," the local Bi/Lesbian/Gay social group, is working on the details at this time and we are soliciting your help. We would like your ideas and suggestions, your time in volunteering if you live nearby, or any financial or other input you can think of. You may contact Lin Gould at 207/244-4062 or Mark Letizia at 207/469-3077 or write to Symposium XXII, P. O. Box 516, Mt. Desert, ME 04660. And don't forget to mark those dates on your 1996 calendar.

PRIDE Committee holds elections



Michael Rossetti

Southern Maine Pride is the Pride Committee's (also known as "Portland Pride") new name. It reflects the efforts of the 1995 committee to produce events targeted at serving their community. It also reflects the many discussions held by previous committee members to produce a new set of incorporation papers and by-laws which will give Pride '96 a durable set of operating procedures in a changing environment. The growth of Pride in 1995 has allowed the organization to produce its first profitable year and its first year as an officially declared festival of the City of Portland. There are great expectations of continued success.

The new by-laws are based on a division of responsibilities and therefore are very dependent on the filling of all Board positions in or-

der to work as expected. The Board elections are set for November 20, 1995. Positions to be filled are events organizers, administrative positions, graphics and public relations positions and various logistics supervisors. All Board positions are by nomination from the general committee which is open to everyone. The location and time for the meeting is 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland.

An "Advisory Board" is also being sought which will enhance the events planning with advice and counsel from community professionals and interested groups or businesses.

Southern Maine Pride Committee meetings are held on the third Monday of the month, with several sub-committees meeting at other times. Board meetings are for updates on Pride events planning and hearing proposals for events or ideas from community sponsors. For more information, call 871-9940. ΔΔ

MONEY TALK - - New for 1995 Tax Returns



Peter Callnan, CPA

I realize everyone's mind is probably on the upcoming holiday and the defeat of Question #1 (YEA!) but, the closer we get to the year end, the more important tax matters become. This month I will be doing a quick and brief review of a few 1995 tax law changes in the hope that it will provide some of you with tax saving ideas.

* The Federal income tax brackets have been adjusted for inflation, so check carefully if you don't use the table in your tax booklet. This means that more income is taxed at a lower rate. Maine has

made no adjustment in their brackets for inflation.

* The Federal personal exemption deduction has been increased to \$2,500; you are allowed one for yourself and each of your dependents. Generally, for someone to be a dependent you must provide more than half of their general living expenses. An unrelated individual, living in your household for the entire tax year can be a dependent, but will not qualify you for head of household filing status. Maine has not changed their personal exemption amount from \$2,100. I'm beginning to wonder if they ever will.

* Standard deductions for individuals who do not itemize have increased to \$3,900 for Single, \$5,750 for Head of Household, \$6,500 for Married, Filing Jointly, and \$3,275 for Married Filing Separately. I realize I mentioned this last time, but

it bears repeating because it effects so many people. The standard deductions are increased if you are age 65 or over or blind. Check your booklet if this applies to you.

* The standard allowance for business mileage has been increased to 30¢ a mile. The IRS does not consider commuting to a regular place of work from your home to be business mileage. Traveling for purposes of continuing education can qualify however. Charitable mileage is still 12¢ and medical is 9¢.

* The Earned Income Credit has been expanded to include individuals who do not have children. This was really new in 1994, but it's a good opportunity so I wanted to mention. If you have low earned income levels, this may be a chance for you to reduce your tax liability or increase your refund. There are specific rules, but it is worth reviewing the instructions in the booklet to see if you qualify. The IRS will even calculate it for you if you ask.

Those are a few of the basic changes for 1995. If tax law and return preparation overwhelm you, it is a good investment to contact a qualified professional to be certain you have taken advantage of all tax saving opportunities. Next month I will start a series on how to file Form 1040. I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving. Good luck! ΔΔ

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TO YOUR HEALTH - Personal Wellness in Stressful Times

by Tania Jo Hathaway

What can you do to counteract the ill effect on your health of too much "bad" stress? Three Golden Rules:

Eat well. Rest well. Exercise (at least) some.

This month's column will focus on eating better to improve wellness. Next month, this column will discuss the importance of rest and exercise.

Eating well means (1) cutting back intake of sugar, caffeine, and fats; and (2) increasing intake of vegetables and grains.

Too stressed or too busy to think about dietary changes at this time?

Here are some basic guidelines, starting with cutting out less desirable foods. Start cutting caffeine by just one cup of coffee! Sound like too little for the bother? Consider this: in a week's time, if you normally have four cups of coffee a day, cutting out one of those cups means that by the end of the week you will have had SEVEN fewer cups than normal! In due time you may consider cutting the coffee

again — or not. Either way, you'll have decreased your coffee consumption over the long haul.

Second, cut sugar consumption. Get this: the national average weight gain between Thanksgiving and January 1 is 7-12 pounds, much of which comes from over-eating high fat, high caloric sweets. Since most of us like sweets, should we have to give them up altogether? No! But employ a few habits to help cut back: 1) always think before consuming! Do I really want this? How many treats have I already had today/this week? Is there something else I can have to satisfy this craving? 2) try eating sugared goodies only after a full meal and even then, help yourself to half a serving of dessert, split a dessert with someone else or simply leave half of the dessert on your plate.

Finally—you've heard it before — cut the fat! This is tough for many of us to do, since fat hides in seemingly mysterious places and it makes our food taste so good! Future columns will focus more on understanding the

fat/saturated fat/cholesterol link, but for now, begin your changes slowly: 1) if you eat meat, select lean meats, skinless chicken, and fish in moderate amounts; 2) eat milk products with 0-1% fat; 3) when cooking, use oils and fats VERY sparingly — *measure* the amount of oil or butter you are using and cut in half what you normally use; and 4) processed or pre-prepared foods often have an over abundance of fat/saturated fat, so avoid these in favor of lower fat choices.

Since upcoming holiday celebrations will include lots of goodies loaded with extra fat/saturated fat/cholesterol, moderation and small dietary changes will help keep you from becoming a 7-12 lb. statistic!

Now for foods to increase. Start increasing your intake of vegetables and fruits by getting vegetables and fruits into your consciousness: banana at breakfast; salad or cooked vegetable at lunch; dried fruit for snacks; raw carrots, broccoli, and cauliflower for appetizers; salad and cooked vegetable at dinner. Can you remember the last

time you had FIVE servings of vegetables and fruit in one day? That's the minimum amount recommended!

Our daily diets should also be high in whole grains. Brown rice as well as breads and pasta made from the whole grain of bran, wheat, rye, etc. are common and quick ways to get more grains into our daily diet. In addition, the world is full of interesting and tasty grains which are also quick to prepare! For now, think whole grain pasta for dinner instead of meat; have a sandwich for lunch made from whole grain bread; choose brown rice whenever available in restaurants and serve it at home, too.

Remember, dietary changes start slowly and are always worthwhile since diet is a major player in long-term health as well as feeling good every day. ΔΔ

(Tania Jo Hathaway is Coordinator of the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine. For more information: (207) 657-5864 or PO Box 11048 Portland, ME 04104.)

Health News

PORTLAND: The Community Relations and Development office of Mercy Hospital recently issued a press release concerning free medical services. The Portland Street Clinic, located at 15 Portland Street in Portland, provides free, comprehensive health care for adults with limited income, who have no insurance or doctor. The Clinic is located in the Community Resource Center and is open evenings from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays by appointment. The Clinic, staffed largely by volunteer doctors and support staff, is sponsored by Mercy Hospital and adminis-

tered by the City of Portland Public Health Division. Staff work closely with Mercy Hospital and other health care providers to arrange whatever tests or medical procedures patients need. Again, all of the services are free. For more information or to make an appointment, call 874-8982.

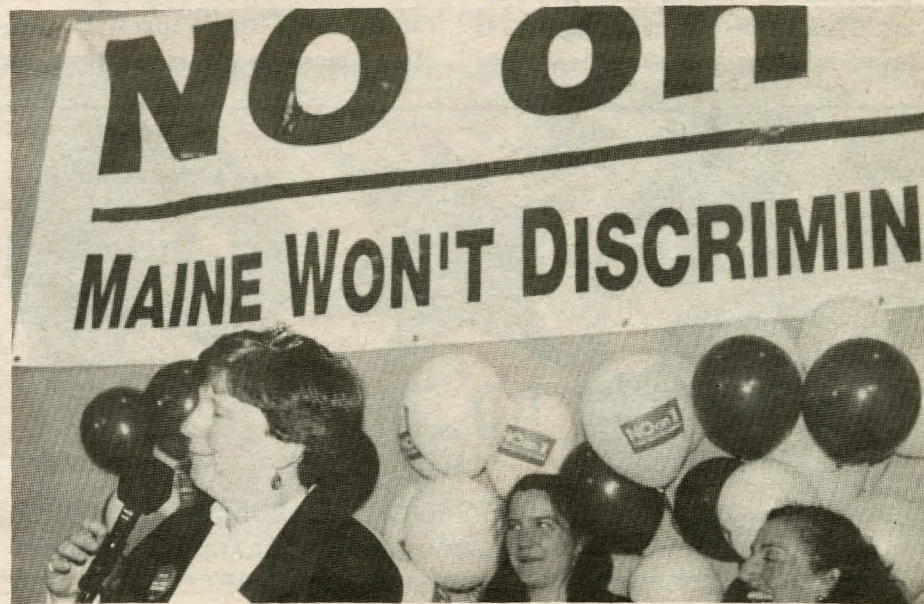
PORTLAND: Mercy Hospital will offer CPR for Adults, Children and Infants on Tuesday, November 21, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Designed for individuals who are not medical professionals, the course is held at Mercy Hospital, State

Street, and follows guidelines set by the American Heart Association. There is a fee of \$20 per person. Call 879-3536 to pre-register, for more information or to obtain a schedule for future classes.

PORTLAND: Caring and Sharing, a support group sponsored by Mercy Hospital, State Street, Portland, provides mutual support for cancer patients and survivors. The emphasis is on caring, growth and hope through social participation. The group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in Mercy's Board Room on the sixth floor. Group facilitators are Beth Connelly, R.N., and Dawn Trombley, R.N., from Mercy's Outpatient Oncology Center. For more information, call 879-3030.

BANGOR: Spruce Run will be providing training to persons wanting to provide support to people whose lives have been impacted by domestic violence. Hotline workers are given 43 hours of training and may work from their homes at night or in the office days. After completing 24 hours of training, children's workers may work with children in the shelter or in support groups. Hours are flexible. Experience is not necessary. Free training and lots of support for volunteers, including some fun and parties too, will be provided. Next session of trainings will begin in mid January, 1996 in Bangor. The 43 hours course happens in three and half hour sessions, two evenings a week. The 24 hour training will be scheduled on a Saturday and two evenings a week. Call Spruce Run at 945-5102 by January 15, 1996.

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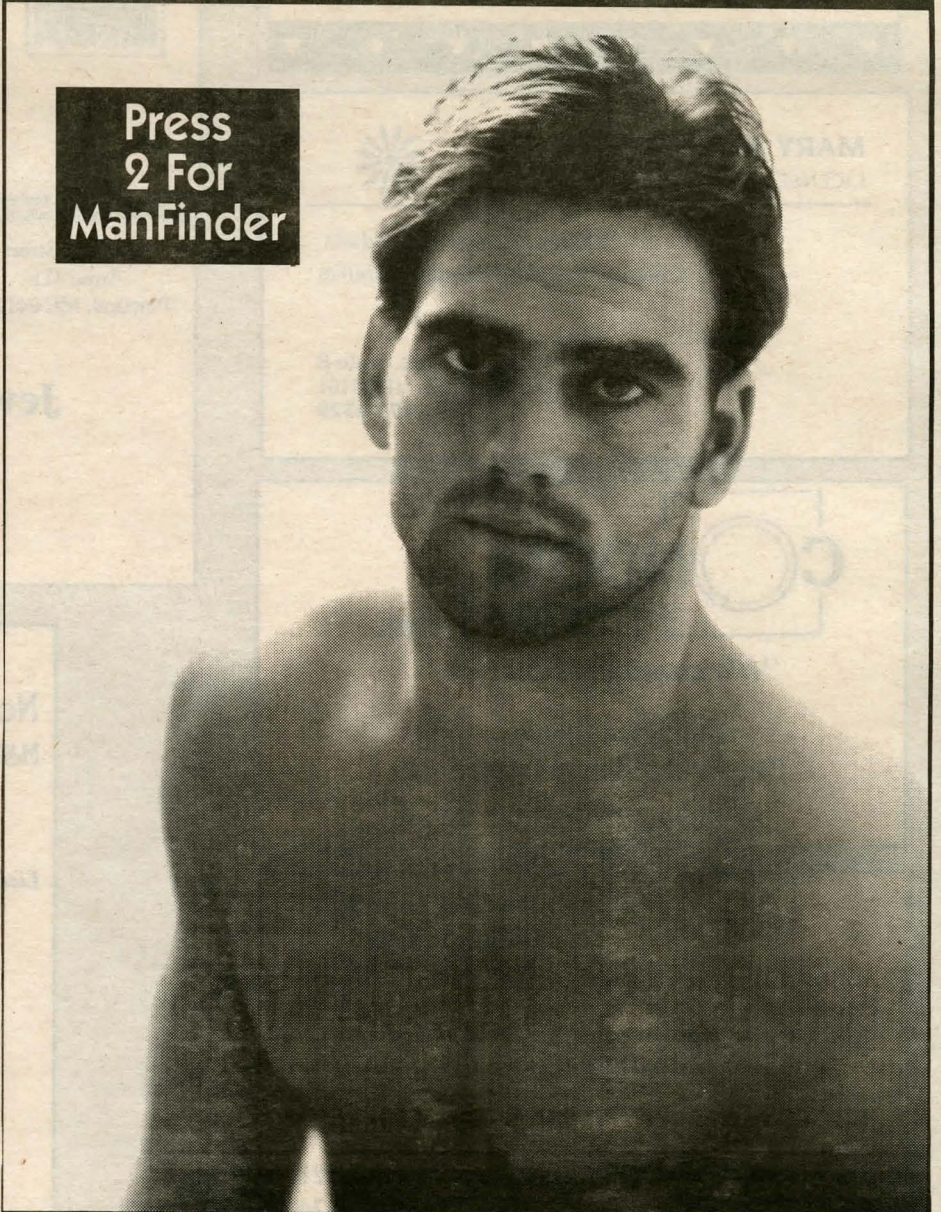
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